

Fall 12-8-2008

# Maine Campus December 08 2008

Maine Campus Staff

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/mainecampus>

---

## Repository Citation

Staff, Maine Campus, "Maine Campus December 08 2008" (2008). *Maine Campus Archives*. 679.  
<https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/mainecampus/679>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Campus Archives by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact [um.library.technical.services@maine.edu](mailto:um.library.technical.services@maine.edu).



# The Maine Campus

Monday, December 8, 2008 Vol. 127, No. 21

## McCarthy wins SG presidency

By Heather Steeves  
News Editor

Owen McCarthy won the seat of Student Government president with 49 percent of the vote on Dec. 2. The other two candidates lagged behind: Gimbal Sankare got 345 votes and Robert Goodwin took 307 — far from McCarthy's 699.

This could mean an off-campus shuttle service, leadership develop-

ment, a full senate and extended library hours if McCarthy and his new vice president-elect, Ross Wolland, get their way.

Students also chose to remove the Student Government president's veto power with Question 2. The referendum

got more than 75 percent "yes" votes. It asked: "Shall the Constitution of Student Government Inc. be amended so the General Student Senate may veto any resolution or main motion passed by the GSS with a two-thirds vote if quorum exists?"

The senate gave this veto power to the president in April last year.

McCarthy's campaign promises included helping alleviate parking troubles with a shuttle that would stop at the University of Maine, downtown Orono and Orchard Trails. McCarthy is unsure where the funding for the

project would come from, but he said sources from Parking Services told him it might be doable.

"I believe the BAT bus stops running at 5 [p.m.] I know a lot of students that are involved on campus — especially international students — don't have cars. That may inhibit them from being involved in activities on campus," said McCarthy, a third-year biological engineering student.

His other major promise was to

grow leadership development through Student Government. He plans to do this by expanding the vice president of student organizations position. He wants the VPSO to teach financial planning and other skills to student groups.

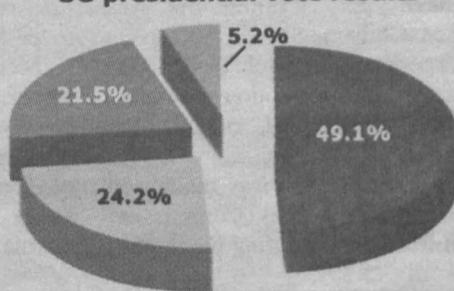
"I think Student Government should

be a body that is helping student organizations, not inhibiting them and not attacking them. I think they [senators] need to keep a watchful eye on where they [organizations] spend the money, but I also think we need to help out these organizations," McCarthy said.

"If they may not have something set up quite right, and they want, and we can help them, we need to do that. And I think that kind of focus, specifically with the treatment of organizations that come to senate, can definitely be

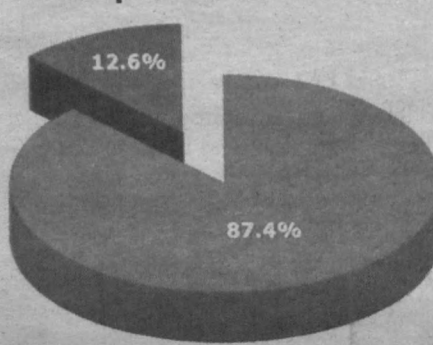
See **PRESIDENT** on page 3

SG presidential vote results



Owen McCarthy Robert Goodwin  
Gimbal Sankare Write-in votes

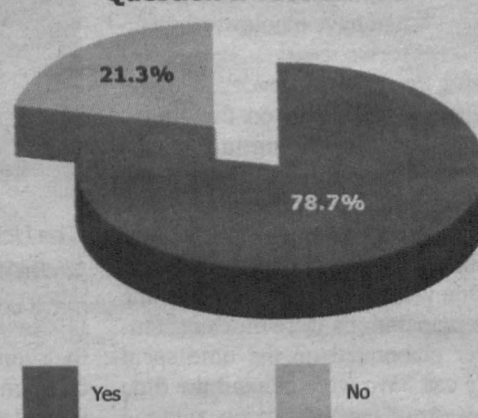
SG vice presidential vote results



Ross Wolland Write-in votes

Complete list of write-in votes on page 3

Question 2 vote results



Yes No

## Tech glitches marr election

By Heather Steeves  
News Editor

University of Maine Student Government elections are over — but not without a hitch.

Technical issues with FirstClass delayed the election by a day, and some students complained they did not get the voting icon on their desktops. Many voters could not see Question 1 — delaying the voting on it by at least one semester. Complaints also include the lack of advertisement of the election's delay.

After a day of trying to figure out the technical difficulties and answering approximately 300 e-mails from students on Tuesday, Tavian MacKinnon, The Fair Election Practices Commission chair, is still unsure of why voting icons did not show up on some students' desktops.

The Fair Elections Practices Commission will actively investigate why this happened. It met Thursday at 3:30 p.m. to discuss complaints filed by candidate Robert Goodwin. Goodwin's complaint (see full text of the complaint at [mainecampus.com](http://mainecampus.com)) was that some students were unable to vote. FEPC guidelines dictate a ballot box be in the Wade Center in case a student is unable to vote online. Four paper ballots were cast in this election.

"I feel strongly that something needs to be done now about it," Goodwin said in the meeting. He suggested voting be re-opened briefly for the students unable to vote on Tuesday. This suggestion was denied.

"The funny thing is, all the list of students that are in the elections is the activity paying students from the Office of Student Records, so for some reason, some students weren't on it — maybe they weren't activity fee-paying students — that information is confidential; we don't really know. But it seems to be that the Office of Student Records' records weren't accurate. And I really don't know why that is, because that's the official record

See **GLITCHES** on page 3

## Financial aid down, worries more pain is to come

Dylan Riley  
Assistant News Editor

University of Maine students were notified on Dec. 1 of a \$60 per-student reduction of the State of Maine Grant, which amounts to a loss of about \$155,000 in state-funded financial aid for UMaine. Students should expect similar reductions in the future.

According to the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME), all full-time undergraduate in-state students from all the University of Maine System campuses, roughly 13,000 in all, were affected by the grant's decrease — 2,600 at

UMaine. Decreased state funding caused by Gov. John Baldacci's budget cuts forced the drop in financial aid.

"From a financial aid perspective, we in the aid community looking at all of the students — and specifically here at Orono — felt that the impact would be less if we spread it out among all the students," said Peggy Crawford, UMaine's financial aid director. "For us here, the maximum grant for spring semester, for students who are eligible, instead of being \$600 it's \$540."

Crawford said FAME and the university system considered two options for managing the grant reduction: tak-

ing the grant away from its recipients with the highest income, or spreading out the cut among all of the students. They chose the second option.

FAME and the university system considered spreading the \$60 between students' fall 2008 and spring 2009 bills, but decided it was a bad idea to bill students for the \$30 FAME gave them this semester, Crawford said.

The grant reduction accounts for about \$155,000 in financial aid at UMaine, Crawford said. She was unsure how much future financial aid cuts might be. The whole cut accounts for a loss of about \$780,000 of finan-

cial aid for the entire UMaine System.

"I don't think it was avoidable," said FAME's acting director, Beth Borbowitz. "I'm hoping there won't be more cuts for 2009."

Borbowitz and Crawford acknowledged the likelihood of more decreases to state-funded financial aid in the future.

"When the governor came out and said that he was looking for a 10 percent reduction across the board, FAME, because of the size of dollars — especially because of the grant

See **FAME** on page 5



# GSS R.E.A.C.H.es to give \$2,000 to group

By Alex Leonard  
Staff Reporter

The General Student Senate assembled on Tuesday, Dec. 2, and announced Sen. Owen McCarthy as the new Student Government president for the spring semester of 2009. At the meeting senators heavily debated a resolution to allocate \$2,000 to an international service-trip group.

The senate gave a \$2,000 allocation to R.E.A.C.H. (Relief, Education, Action, Community, Hope) for its spring break trip to South America; this was debated extensively.

Originally, the group requested \$5,000, but it was altered by the Executive Budgetary Committee to \$2,000, which would equal \$200 to each member for transportation. Vice President of Financial Affairs Justin Labonte said this measure was taken

to maintain consistency with other service trips.

Sen. Rob Goodwin argued that because this was an international service trip, more money should be allocated. He then moved to amend the resolution to \$3,030, which failed.

The original resolution was debated again. Sen. Nate Wildes stressed consistency, as did Wolland who liked the \$200 per-person limit imposed. Goodwin countered that not all service groups were alike and that this case warranted more funding. He was backed by Sen. Christine Soyden who spoke about her experiences and felt that \$2,000 was not enough. The resolution ultimately passed and the R.E.A.C.H. organization received \$2,000.

The result of the election was announced by Fair Elections Practices Commission chair Tavian MacKinnon during his weekly

report. Joining McCarthy in office will be Ross Wolland, who ran unopposed for vice president. McCarthy won over Gimballa Sankare and fellow Sen. Goodwin. McCarthy seemed upbeat and enthusiastic about the opportunity.

He focused on maintaining the high level of performance and accountability that comes with being a leader. "I'm going to meet with as many people as possible. ... I really want to make sure that I have a complete grasp of where everything has gone in the past so that way we don't make mistakes in the future," McCarthy said.

McCarthy said there was little time before he was inaugurated and spoke on his plan to be prepared for leading next semester.

"I'm going to try and get things set up, meet with James [Lyons] a lot, get some advice from him," McCarthy said. He added that he would spend ample time during his

winter break on campus to help familiarize himself with the procedures of the president of Student Government.

McCarthy showed a great deal of enthusiasm about the executive leaders around him. He spoke about Vice President-elect Ross Wolland and his impact on the cabinet.

"I am really excited that Ross got the position. ... I know Ross is the type of guy that takes initiative on his own to work toward a collective goal." He touched on Wolland's experience as a leader of Residents on Campus and his familiarity with the procedures of senate.

Labonte announced that \$475 was allocated to the UMaine Green Team. In addition to the allocation to R.E.A.C.H., the senate also passed resolutions allocating \$1,400 to Rotaract, \$2,880 to the International Affairs Association and \$2,375 to the Muslim Student Association.

## UMaine placed top 10 in car competition

Engineer's hydrogen fuel cell car competed against 35 models at MIT in national contest

By Mary Emmi  
For The Maine Campus

Despite some minor setbacks, University of Maine chemical engineering students competed in a national alternative energy car competition on Nov. 16 in Philadelphia.

UMaine's team placed tenth out of the 35 teams that entered. The last time UMaine competed in the national Chem-E-Car competition was in 2006, when they also placed in the top 10.

Before qualifying for nationals in Philadelphia, the UMaine team competed at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in a regional competition in early April. UMaine's team placed first, and sights were set for Philadelphia in November.

The Chem-E-Car competition is hosted by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Its focus is to have college teams use alternative energy sources to run a car — for example, UMaine's choice of a hydrogen fuel cell. This car is placed under certain requirements and must adhere to safety regulations. Each team is allotted \$2,000 and cannot exceed that limit.

The car is only 2 feet long by 1 foot wide and has no brakes. To demonstrate the car's ability, the team operates the car for a specific distance while it carries

500mL of water.

UMaine's 2008 Chem-E-Car team was composed of eight members: Greg Worster, Mike Subilia, Ian Hamilton, Jess Englehart, Tom Schuartz, Sarah Hodgins, Jeff Galle and Matt Pagurko. The team was composed of sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Overall, the team felt they did well, considering they had mild setbacks including a wrong shipping order of chemicals.

*"It was really intense. There was a lot of time spent preparing, but we were organized well."*

Greg Worster  
UMaine team leader

"It took valuable time away from us," Subilia said. "It kind of gave us a lot of hassle."

Although the team was held back by the chemical mix up, it was still able to find the right chemicals and have a noteworthy performance.

Team Leader Worster commented on the atmosphere leading up to the competition: "It was really intense. There was a lot of time spent preparing, but we were organized well."

The team is optimistic for next year. They said they had fun with building the car, but the preparations were time consuming. Worster elaborated on the time spent creating the car. "We were here all the time — nights, weekends, pretty much anytime we could."

Along with the time spent preparing, he and his teammates did find time to give back to the UMaine community. "We gave demonstrations for high school seniors over

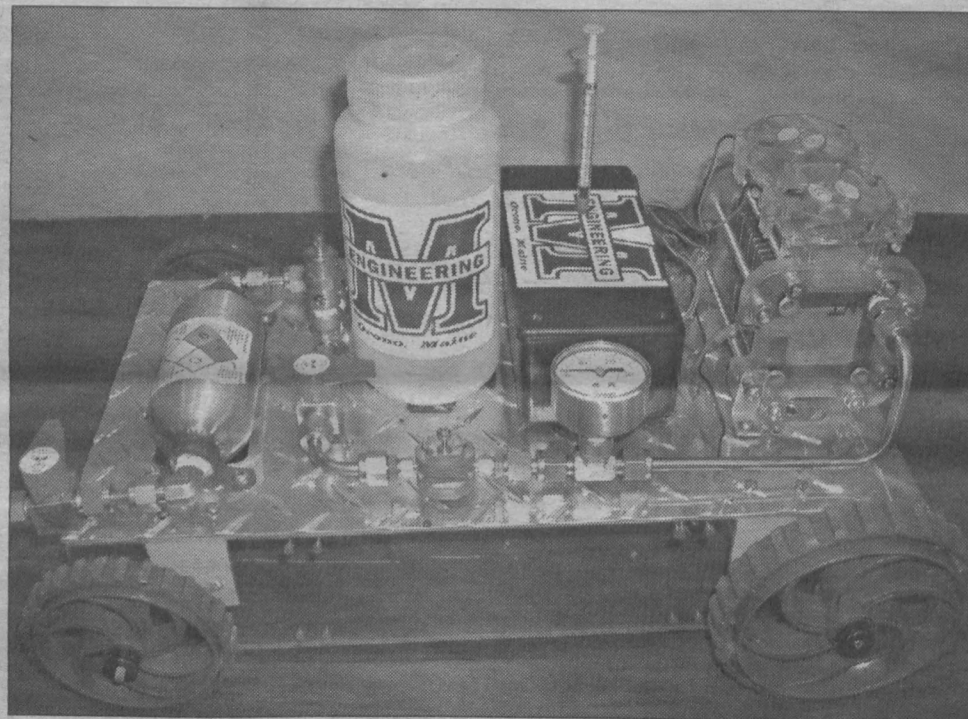


Photo courtesy of Gregory Worster

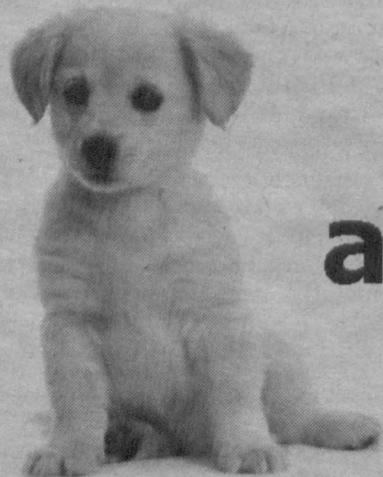
The University of Maine Chemical Engineering majors made the top 10 in a national alternative energy-car competition on Nov. 16 in Philadelphia. The competition's focus is to have college teams use alternative energy sources to run a car.

the summer who were here for orientation."

Even though the price of gas is down, it is hard not to forget that it was earlier this year when the U.S. was facing difficult gas prices. Worster discussed the future for cars that are run by hydrogen fuel cells. "The way that gas prices are has allowed [alternative energy] to be on a same, equal play-

ing field. The decrease in price has been a thorn in the side of alternative energy."

Hydrogen, one of the many options for alternative energy, has an advantage of being cleaner for the environment, but the product is extremely flammable. Keeping hydrogen from leaking is twice as difficult in comparison to gas.



Puppies are  
**awesome!**  
Pet one!



DID YOU KNOW?

WHEN YOU CHOOSE  
MABEL WADSWORTH  
WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER...

You are supporting women's health  
advocacy, education and clinical  
services for thousands of women  
from all economic backgrounds.

To find out more call 207.947.5337 or  
visit us at [www.mabelwadsworth.org](http://www.mabelwadsworth.org)

Insurance is accepted at Mabel Wadsworth Center.



## Complete list of write-in votes

**President:**  
The Mullet: 6  
Justin Labonte: 3

**Two votes each:**  
Brett Frye  
Thomas Starkey  
Rick Astley  
Joe Gauthier  
Chris Harmon  
Melissa Gilfort

**One vote each:**  
Justin Barker  
Timothy McGrath  
Jules Lessard  
Sarah Pond  
Adam Carr  
JD Cook  
Hillary Clinton  
John McCain  
Gordon Smith  
Osama Bin Laden  
Jesus  
James Lyons  
None of these idiots  
Drew Bledsoe  
Johnathan Erde  
Brian Grant  
Francis T. Crowe  
Jack Bauer  
John Macfarlane  
Christopher Blois  
Mickey Mouse  
Mccarthy  
Joseph Micucci  
Ford Prefect

Chris Farley  
Brett Davison  
Matthew Seel  
Robert Collins  
Jim Morrison  
Oz  
Michael Corey  
McClain  
Paul McBurney  
Adam Clark  
Curvin Farnham  
Sean Rankin  
-Douglas Yancey  
Funnie-  
Trevor Ross  
coolguy 7 brahstick  
John DeMerchant  
Jenny Verrill  
Timothy Richter  
Jessica James  
The Batman  
-Nick "Fuzzy Bear"  
Squillante-  
Anyone but them.  
Mike Veilleux  
Land Cook  
Adam Kirkland  
Graham Jenkins  
Paul E. Curtis  
Laura E. Young  
Matthew Donahue

**Vice President:**  
Rick Astley: 22  
Paul Curtis: 21  
Paul E. Curtis: 5  
Matthew Donahue: 7  
The Mullet: 4  
Dustin Morgan: 4

**Two votes each:**  
Owen Sanborn  
Boob sweat  
James Lyons  
Ben Goodman  
None  
Thomas Starkey  
Gimbala Sankare  
Chuck Norris

**One vote each:**  
Gregory Worster  
John Talbot  
John Meyers  
Matthew F. Palmer  
Paul Mitchell  
Tom Jones  
Own McCarthy  
Owen McCarthy  
Bob Barker  
Matt Bowler  
Obama  
Pat Heacock  
Donald Duck  
ANYONE BUT ROSS!  
Bill Tardiff  
JD Cook  
ABRW  
Chris DuBois

Nope  
Russel Toothaker  
Greg Lacadie  
Anyone else  
James Baum  
Anybody but Ross Wolland  
Joel Pepin  
Kavita Naik  
Anyone but Ross  
Ghandi  
Phillip Morris NaPier  
Barack Obama  
Stephen Colbert  
Elizabeth Knue  
Hojin Lee  
Other  
Dean Wilber  
NOT ROSS  
Sean Rankin  
Alexander Richardson  
the Helmet  
Michael Scott  
Bart Simpson  
Ryan Roberts  
Ross Dnallow  
Christopher Blois  
Jakie Just  
Wolland  
Daniel Price  
Christopher E. Martin  
Ross Smith  
I like turtles  
Tim Smith  
David S. Cox  
Dustin Bateman  
Joe Fasulo  
Jon Smith

John Lennon  
Oz  
Ben Morton  
Adam Clark  
Jack Warren Burt  
Daniel Rigg  
Ryan Celli  
Beer.  
William Speed  
Sarah Louise Heath Palin  
Bruce Jensen!!!  
The Ultimate Warrior  
Travis Lebrun  
Peter Nincompoop  
Derek Arnold  
Charles Hastings  
Jeffrey Pelletier  
The Boy Wonder  
Holly Knight  
Doumen DeHaan  
-The creepy woman who  
walks around all in black wit-  
Mike Veilleux  
Dane Hanson  
Matthew Thorton  
Santa Clause  
James Willis  
Cody Bishop  
Jameson Hardy  
Brian Porter  
Melissa Glifort  
Steven Moran  
-Christopher "Big Black"  
Boykin-  
Asshat  
Ian Larson

### President from page 1

improved upon. I think it has been getting better this semester."

Another way to make the senate more effective, according to McCarthy, is to renovate the senate's committees.

"I know a couple of [committee] meetings I've been to that aren't super-effective, that we could probably be using our time a little better to help things out. Maybe an evaluation of what the committees are doing — how they are run — will help add another dimension."

Wolland agreed.

"Through [senator] recruitment, we'll

hopefully be able to get

the committee system

going again. It has kind of

gotten low because senators

only have to be on

two committees,"

Wolland said. "Hopefully

when [senator] numbers

get up, committees will

fill, and when that hap-

pens, I'm going to be

enforcing attendance

strictly because I feel it is

important. It is important

to enforce our rules seriously so people take it

seriously."

Wolland's mission is to fill the senate to its

35-senator capacity.

"The No. 1 priority going in is recruitment.

I've said it before; I think one of the more

unfortunate things that happened to us this

semester was when we had our [senate] elec-

tions. We had a senate body going into those

elections that was on the brink of maximum

capacity for senators, and after the elections

we dropped about 10 because people lost, and

they didn't want to go through the process

again, which I since remedied with one of my

resolutions."

Wolland said he is working on a number of

resolutions to change Student Government's

standing rules and clear up ambiguities. Many

of the rules leave decisions to the discretion of

the person chairing the senate meeting.

"I don't want it to be my judgment call. I

want it to be the rules, so I plan on changing that," Wolland said.

The vice president-elect is also working on a survey to assess if Fogler Library's hours are meeting students' needs.

"We're going to try to judge what the feelings are from the student body based on our survey and figure out if there is a demand for extended operation. I know a lot of students are frustrated because the library opens at 8 [a.m.]," he said.

Both newly-appointed executives say they expect a healthy working relationship.

"I think Owen was an excellent candidate, as the others were as well. I'm confident in his

abilities to be president,

and I think things will go

well. He's shown exten-

sive leadership," Wolland

said.

The last few student

body presidents have

resigned, but McCarthy

said he will not continue

the trend.

"There is no reason

why I should leave office

early. That's one of my

goals is to stay through my

whole term, which I'm fairly certain I can

accomplish that." He said this has been a prob-

lem with Student Government. "Continuity

with people leaving office all the time, you get

under one regime or system, and they have

their things one way, pushing their initiatives

and a month later, it changes. It definitely

seems like you can't take on any larger projects

that go longer than two weeks in advance,

three weeks in advance, so I'm really excited

that both Ross and I won't be graduating."

But just in case, Wolland is ready.

"Yup. I have to be, otherwise I wouldn't

have run for vice president. It's not my plan to

become president at the time. I have no assas-

sination attempts plotted toward Owen."

The Student Government presidential elec-

tions had originally been scheduled for Dec. 1,

but technical problems delayed it for a day.

Inauguration will be Wednesday, Dec. 10 at

5 p.m. in the Bangor Room.

### Glitches from page 1

keeping of UMaine."

Undergraduate

students can opt out

of the student activity

fee.

Question 2 passed. The question,

according to Student Government

President James Lyons, was not the word-

ing approved by senate. This question

revoked the student body president's veto

power senate gave him last semester.

Question 1's votes were not counted

because technical issues kept many stu-

dents from reading the question. Question

1 read: "Shall the Constitution of Student

Government Inc. be amended to remove

the use of an initiative to appropriate funds

or to designate any person

to hold public office or to

remove any person from

public office?"

Another technical issue

was that candidates' names

that were supposed to be in

the random order drawn in

a senate meeting earlier

last month were in a differ-

ent arrangement.

"I don't think it really matters [in terms

of] the outcome of the vote, personally. It's

more of a tradition, more for the candi-

dates. The real importance of the order is

for the debate, because it's the basis of

who speaks at the debate — who speaks

first, who speaks last," MacKinnon said.

"Beside the technical [issues] we faced

with running it on FirstClass, they went

very well. All the candidates ran a good

election, they followed the guidelines to

the Tee," MacKinnon said.

Voter turnout was up approximately 13

percent from last year.

"It [voter participation] was, I think, 8

percent [last year]; it was low," McKinnon

said. This year, MacKinnon estimated par-

ticipation at 21.3 percent of undergraduate

activity fee-paying students. He attributed

the participation to the candidates. "Owen,

Gimbala and Rob all campaigned very

hard and advertised. And the media, you

guys covered the election pretty extensive-

ly." All three campus media outlets — The

Maine Channel, WMEB and The Maine

Campus — held interviews with the candi-

dates.

This year 5.19 percent of the presiden-

tial votes went to write-ins. There was no

write-in candidate. Last year write-ins

took 13.59 percent of the vote, when the

election was between William Pomerleau

and Sean Rankin.

"I think it is representative of Student

Government, on the whole, growing and

just improving as an organization,"

Mackinnon said about the write-in differ-

ence between last and this year.

FEPC guidelines state: "If a referen-

dum is conducted using the

FirstClass Intranet voting

system, a complete version

must be made available

using that system for three

days prior to the vote."

"We ran into problems

with that because it could-

n't be done. You can't send

a mass e-mail with the refer-

endum questions two

days before. As I've said many times

before, the FEPC Guidelines need to be

heavily re-worked."

Last year, the vote icon was posted to

students' desktops days before the vote,

which allowed voters to read the referen-

dum questions. "For some reason, you

can't do it this year," MacKinnon said.

"My main concern with the election

was actually getting it on FirstClass,

ensuring that. I know there have been

instances in the past where the election

was supposed to be on FirstClass, and

when election day came around, it just didn't

appear," the FEPC chair said.

MacKinnon is stepping down from

FEPC chair after being elected to Inter-

Fraternity Council president. He would

like to remain as chair, but can not due to

Student Government regulations.

Other FEPC members did not respond

to interview requests by press time.

#### Number of votes for Question 2:

Yes: 1007  
No: 273



# Unopposed VP candidate contended with 80s pop-star

By Rhiannon Sawtelle  
Features Editor

Ross Wolland ran unopposed for Student Government vice president — until a 1980s pop-star threatened to capture votes.

The morning of elections, an e-mail circulated FirstClass titled, "Become Famous: Rick Roll the GSS Election." Originated by fourth-year business student Thomas Jones, the e-mail encouraged students to vote for Rick Astley instead of Wolland.

Astley is the singer of the '80s song, "Never Gonna Give You Up." The song was a No. 1 hit in 1987.

The music video for the song has circulated the Internet in a new craze — Rick Rolling. In a tactic called 'bait and switch,' Internet users provide a link that supposedly relates to a specific topic;

instead it directs viewers to Astley's music video.

The video has more than 12 million hits on YouTube.

Astley made a surprise appearance, singing his song at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade this year.

The circulated e-mail describes Wolland as, "some kid I never heard of and since he's the only one on the ballot, I am certain that he'll win."

The e-mail went on to encourage students to write in Astley instead of Wolland and to forward the e-mail on to as many people as possible.

"I think it worked flawlessly well considering my only goal was to cause a few

people to smile," Jones said. "I also had several students ask me how to vote so I'd like to think that I unintentionally increased voter turnout if ever so slightly."

*"I think it worked flawlessly well considering my only goal was to cause a few people to smile."*

Thomas Jones  
Fourth-year  
Business student

"It was an unplanned venture. I didn't think of it until the morning of the election as I cast my ballot," he said.

Jones said the e-mail was sent with no

malice toward Wolland.

"While I have never met Ross Wolland, I have nothing against him. I actually had never heard of him until I was casting my vote. I also have a great deal of respect for the GSS and the good work they do. In that light, I don't think anyone could be very upset that I e-mailed my friends," Jones said in an e-mail.

"Although it was a prank, Jones pointed out the obvious and made you realize Ross was running unopposed. It made you wonder if anyone else should be running, even if it is Rick Astley," third-year communications student Sharon Beaupre said.

Astley received 22 votes for vice president and two votes for president of Student Government.

Wolland had not responded to e-mails requesting his opinion by press time.

# The all new mainecampus.com

Read stories, receive e-mail updates,  
watch vodcasts and podcasts,  
comment on articles and more.

Fill the Gap with **UCU's** Alternative Education Loans!

Deferred  
Payments Are  
Now Available!

If your Stafford and PLUS loans have left you with unpaid college expenses, let **UCU's** Alternative Education Loan fill the gap.

Simple and straight-forward college financing.  
Don't you wish everything in life was this easy?

FMI visit **www.ucustudentaid.org**

**UCU**  
UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION

www.ucu.maine.edu • 800-696-8628  
ORONO • BANGOR • FARMINGTON • PORTLAND



NCUA



# ROC tickets to Quebec City sold out

By Kathleen Dame  
For The Maine Campus

Residents on Campus' annual trip to Quebec City sold out on its first night of sales, with students waiting in line up to four and a half hours for tickets.

The trip, organized by ROC, will take place Feb. 6 to 8. ROC will bring 263 students, filling five buses.

Tickets cost \$75 for campus residents and \$85 for off-campus students. They went on sale Monday at 9 p.m.

Kalie Hess, a first-year modern languages student, said she got in line around 7:30 p.m. and missed the ticket cutoff by approximately 30 people.

"It was very inefficient. People were cutting in line, and, you know, it's bound to happen, and people who were waiting were unable to get seats because of it," Hess said.

Hess said she wished ROC had counted the people in line and found out how many more there were than tickets, then told the extra people they

wouldn't be able to go.

"It was really frustrating. It was two hours, and it's just common decency," she said. "They knew it wasn't going to happen, and especially with finals coming up, we could have been doing something else during that time."

Hess said she and 15 of her friends are planning to drive to Quebec that weekend anyway and will meet up with their friends who got tickets. She said the group will take three cars and split the price of gas, so it will cost less than the school-organized trip.

"It's going to be pretty cramped, but we don't care," she said.

ROC officials said there was nothing they could do to prevent issues like cutting and long lines. ROC's Vice President, Joe Moran, said this was the first year he sold tickets for the trip.

"I thought it ran pretty smoothly," Moran said. "It was pretty fast and efficient, as far as I saw."

Moran explained that ROC allowed people to join the line so students who wished to room together could sign up at the same time. One person might have come early to hold a spot while others arrived later, he said.

Kalie Hess  
First-year student

When asked about Hess's suggestion of counting the line early, Moran said the group would need more volunteers to monitor the line. He also said it wouldn't make sense because of the

people who showed up later on.

Lauren Ouellette, ROC's vice president of programming, said group members passed out sign-up forms to students while they waited to get tickets out faster once they went on sale.

"There was a much higher demand this year than there was last year," Ouellette said. She said ROC promoted the trip particularly to freshmen and also made the rules clear on passport regulations.

Until summer 2009, travelers visiting Canada can cross the border with either a passport or a driver's license and birth certificate combination.

On Thursday, there were around 50 students on a waiting list for the trip, in case someone canceled.

Ouellette said if students want to sell the tickets they purchased, they must fill out an official transfer form with ROC by Jan. 16. This form includes the name of the student receiving the ticket, which organizers must provide to the hotel and border patrol.

*"They knew it [having enough tickets for everyone in line] wasn't going to happen, and especially with finals coming up, we could have been doing something else during that time."*

## Road salt prices rise, UMaine has enough

By Kelly Sweet  
For The Maine Campus

As winter sets in at the University of Maine, the grounds crew prepares to keep the roads and walkways clear and open, but rising salt prices may make that difficult.

This year the campus ordered 960 tons of salt and sand at \$55.79 a ton. The university will pay \$53,765.74 for the year.

Although the price has gone up for salt, the crew does not expect to run out this winter. The university works with other towns to make sure they have enough material to keep roads safe. UMaine ran out of road salt last winter.

Jeremy Chubbuck, associate executive director of facilities management, said the campus has 90 tons of mixed salt and sand stored in an on-campus shed.

Richard Guthrie, who orders UMaine's salt, said the contract with International Salt ran out last year. The previous contract had capped the price of the salt.

"This year it caught up to us," Guthrie said.

Chubbuck said the campus uses a form of magnesium closer to buildings because it is less corrosive than road salt. The new Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza is one location on campus that is treated with magnesium for protection.

According to Harold Dall, the grounds supervisor, the university also uses liquid

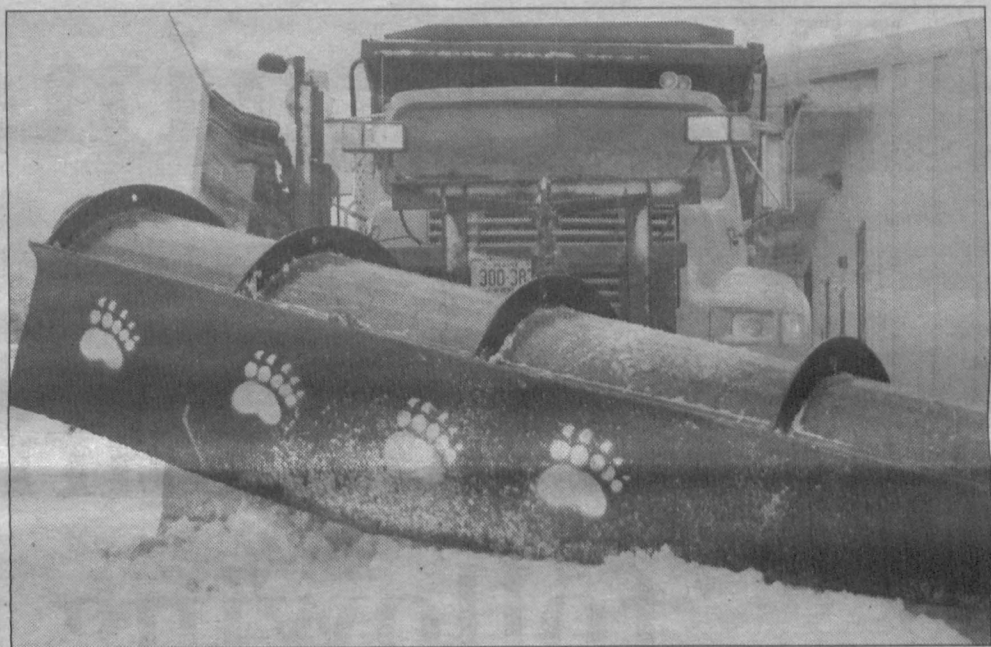
calcium as an additive to the salt. The calcium improves the salt's effectiveness in unusually cold environments. The university stores 3,000 gallons of calcium on campus and uses about 1,500 gallons per year. UMaine purchases the calcium for \$0.89 per gallon, through a partnership with other towns.

UMaine works with surrounding towns to help reduce salt prices. The salt is delivered to all the cooperating towns at once, reducing shipping costs.

Dall said UMaine has acquired specialized equipment to make snow removal faster and more efficient. In the last five years, the university has purchased small tractors to use on sidewalks and hard-to-access areas. These John Deere tractors now make it easier to get closer to buildings and do less damage to the lawns and sidewalks. Some of the equipment is similar to heavy-duty farm equipment.

A second plow with a hydraulic ram has been added onto these tractors for faster snow removal. Dall said this eliminates the need for multiple passes, which saves time.

The storage shed for sand and salt has been used for the last few years. Dall and Chubbuck agree that it has drastically improved the ability to keep the campus safe. Prior to the shed, sand and salt was stored outside, causing it to become wet and frozen. The crews had to chip away the sand to get to the good sand below. The frozen sand also damaged the spreaders on the trucks. Dall said the spreaders would either become clogged or throw



Jacob Powers ♦ The Maine Campus

As winter sets in at the University of Maine, the grounds crew prepares to keep the roads and walkways clear and open. This year the campus ordered 960 tons of salt and sand.

"golf-ball-size" chunks of frozen sand onto the road.

The ground crew keeps workers assigned to different areas of campus so roads aren't being treated too much and the salt and sand isn't being cleared from the road before it takes effect.

The crews prepare the trucks after each storm and all the equipment is kept inside to prevent corrosion and additional maintenance.

The grounds crew runs a split shift to help save money and keep crew on the university grounds all day. Dall encourages people to be patient with the grounds crew. Not only do they have to keep the roads clear, but they also

have work orders all across campus.

"If it starts snowing at 4 in the morning, there is no way we can clear all the roads by 7," Dall said.

The crew also reclaims a lot of salt sand from catches around campus as a part of state environmental standards. From the previous season 18.9 tons of salt and sand was reclaimed. The sand is safely disposed of to prevent possible contamination from anything in the sand, such as motor oil.

Chubbuck and Dall are confident that the university will have more than enough supplies for the winter. Dall placed an order above what was expected last year to make sure the campus didn't run out.

### FAME

from page 1

to take the cut," Crawford said.

On Nov. 19 the university was ordered by the governor to cut \$5.3 million from its budget, as part of Baldacci's curtailment order to state agencies — \$1.2 million less than what the state demanded earlier in the semester. UMaine's curtailment was reduced to mitigate the direct impact on its students, according to David Farmer, a governor's office spokesperson.

"We have no solid plans to reduce further grant funding.

program — that's where they had

This is the amount that we are taking from the University of Maine and the University of Maine System for 2009," Farmer said.

Farmer acknowledged the possibility of future reductions and said the state currently has no plans to introduce more financial aid.

"I hope we can keep the allocation at FAME the same as it is right now, so that the same students who are eligible this year will be eligible next year," Crawford said. When asked whether she felt that was a realistic hope, she said, "Probably not."

"We spread the pain, but we understand it's painful," Borbowitz said.

## STUDENT • LEGAL • SERVICES

157 MEMORIAL UNION 581-1789

### One Sip is Too Much

In the State of Maine, if you are under the age of 21 and it is determined that you were operating a motor vehicle with any amount of alcohol in your blood, you will lose your license for one year for the first offense and two years for the second offense. Add an additional 180 days if you have a passenger under 21 in the vehicle with you at the time of the offense.

Student Legal Services provides free legal services to full-time undergraduates

The Maine Campus  
thinks you look nice today.



# Hey, want a job?

## The Maine Campus

is now hiring for the  
following positions:

**-Editor in Chief** (Training starts next semester)

**-News Editor** (Training starts next semester)

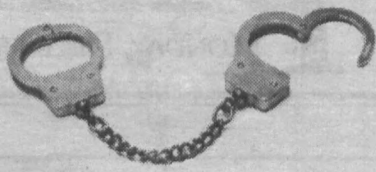
**-Copy Editor** (For Spring '09)

**-Photographers** (For Spring '09)

Contact Nicholas McCrea on FirstClass  
for more information.



# Police Beat



*The best from Orono, Old Town and UMaine's finest*

## Campus kidnap scare

A University of Maine student's mother received a phone call from an unidentified male claiming he kidnapped her daughter from campus on Nov. 25. The caller demanded money for the daughter's safe return. The mother reported the call to the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department at 3:20 p.m. that day. They contacted UMaine Public Safety. Officers responded to the student's room in Cumberland Hall to find her safe and sound. Cumberland County Sheriff's Department is investigating the case.

## Pedestrian hit by car near greenhouses

Public Safety responded to an emergency call box on Dec. 2 at 9:31 a.m. for a personal injury accident. A car struck a pedestrian on Grove Street Extension. An officer located a female lying in the road, identified as Elizabeth Mullholland, 21, Orono. The driver of the vehicle was Zachary Louten, 22, Augusta. Mullholland was transferred to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries and was treated and released in the same day.

It appeared that Mullholland was walking across the road with Louten driving south. A passenger in Louten's vehicle said that glare from the road helped cause the accident. George Ash, an accident reconstructionist from the Orono Police Department, will further investigate the incident. Ash will be looking at the contributing factors that have yet to be determined, such as the speed at which Mullholland was struck.

## No sparks fly

While patrolling Rangley Road, an officer found several subjects behaving suspiciously. At 1:10 a.m. on Dec. 6, the subjects were walking south on a dirt road heading to Old Town. The officer drove up to the subjects, and they said they were out for a walk. The officer found this suspicious as it was 17 degrees outside. As he drove back up the path, the officer found a backpack with a box protruding out of the top. The officer called to the subjects to come back. Upon questioning, Eric Noyes, 18, Orono, revealed that the box contained fireworks, 36 tubes of 1-inch diameters. Noyes was issued a summons for unlawful possession of fireworks.

## You could poke someone's eye out with that

Public Safety was called during routine room inspections in Androscoggin Hall at 2:35 p.m. on Dec. 4. Residence Life staff was inspecting a room on the third floor when they located a gun in the room. Officers investigated the gun, which turned out to be a plastic replica. Residents Life was left to handle the situation from there.

## Call for help

Residents reported the sound of a male calling for help between Oak Hall and Wells Commons at 2:49 a.m. on Nov. 30. Officers searched the area and located an intoxicated 21-year-old male lying on the ground without a jacket, socks or shoes in the alley between the two buildings. Orono Rescue transported the student to the hospital for evaluation.

## Lost Canon

A student's camera was stolen while he attended a concert in the Class of 1944 Hall on Nov. 22 from 5 - 8 p.m. He sat on the bench outside the concert hall and set his black shoulderbag down. He returned to retrieve the forgotten bag at 8 p.m., and it was gone. The Canon digital camera inside is valued at \$400. The case is under investigation.

## Pocket pilferer

A student attending the same concert hung her coat in the hallway outside the concert hall with an envelope containing \$40 in cash in the pocket. When she returned at 7:30 p.m., the money had been taken.

## Parts pilferer

A resident of Gannett Hall left his 21-speed Schwinn bicycle locked to the bike rack outside the hall during vacation. He returned on Nov. 30 to discover someone had removed the seat and rear wheel. The estimated cost to replace the parts is \$100.

## Pool pilferer

A student's wallet was taken while he swam laps in the Wallace Pool in the Memorial Gym between 6 and 8:30 p.m. on Nov. 25. The wallet disappeared from an unlocked locker in the men's locker room. It contained \$30 in cash. The case is under investigation.

## Pack pilferer

A student reported his backpack had been stolen from the first-floor computer lab of Fogler Library on Nov. 4. He didn't report the incident until Nov. 24. The backpack contained an economy and a business textbook, both valued at \$120. The case is under investigation.

## Slashed screens

Residence Life reported three destroyed window screens on the first floor of Oxford Hall at 10:22 a.m. on Dec. 1. It appears they were cut with a knife, but it doesn't look like anyone tried to gain entry. Police describe it as random criminal mischief. The estimated cost to replace all three screens is \$45.

## Dude, you lost your Dell

An Estabrooke Hall resident lost his laptop after leaving his door unlocked on Dec. 5. He left his fourth floor room unlocked at 2:30 p.m. When he returned at 4:25 p.m., he found that someone had entered his room. The stolen Dell laptop is valued at \$800. The case is under investigation.

## Why search when it's right in front of you?

An anonymous report of underage drinking brought police to the first floor of Cumberland Hall at 7:48 p.m. on Dec. 3. Resident Thomas Kwiatek, 18, Orono, answered the door, and the officer believed that he was intoxicated. David Sledzieski, 18, Orono, was also in the room and appeared to be intoxicated. Kwiatek confirmed they had alcohol in the room, but refused to let the officer search. However, a can of Bud Light was in view. The residents then turned over a can of Budweiser and five cans of Bud Light and admitted to drinking in the room. Sledzieski was summonsed for possession of alcohol by a minor, and Kwiatek was summonsed for furnishing a place for minors to consume.

## Outdated, but still coveted

Police received a report of an office break-in at Rogers Hall on Dec. 3. A faculty member entered his second floor office to find his laptop was stolen. The incident is believed to have occurred sometime between Nov. 26 and Dec. 3. The laptop was an older model Mac, valued at \$200.

## Keep it in the family

Public Safety was called to assist the Orono Police Department at 7:12 a.m. on Dec. 3. At the Tau Kappa Epsilon house, where two juveniles were reportedly fighting. Public Safety arrived and separated the two subjects, who were brother and sister. Orono Police arrived and took over the case.

## Hot locks

Smith House of the DTAV complex had an electrical fire on Dec. 2 at 4:30 p.m. Public Safety

responded to find the electrical box, which powered the door locks, had malfunctioned. Public Safety unplugged the box. The Orono Fire Department and electricians arrived to fix the problem.

## Smoked, not steamed

Smoke from a dryer in the first floor laundry room of the Memorial Gym triggered a fire alarm at 11:30 a.m. on Dec. 2. The dryer was shut off, and the Orono Fire Department arrived. Electricians were called to fix the situation.

## Someone is keeping warm

A package delivered by FedEx was found opened in the hallway outside the designated recipient's room door on the third floor of York Hall. When the subject evaluated the contents on Dec. 2, an L.L. Bean small winter coat with a hood was missing. The missing content is valued at \$160, and the case is still under investigation.

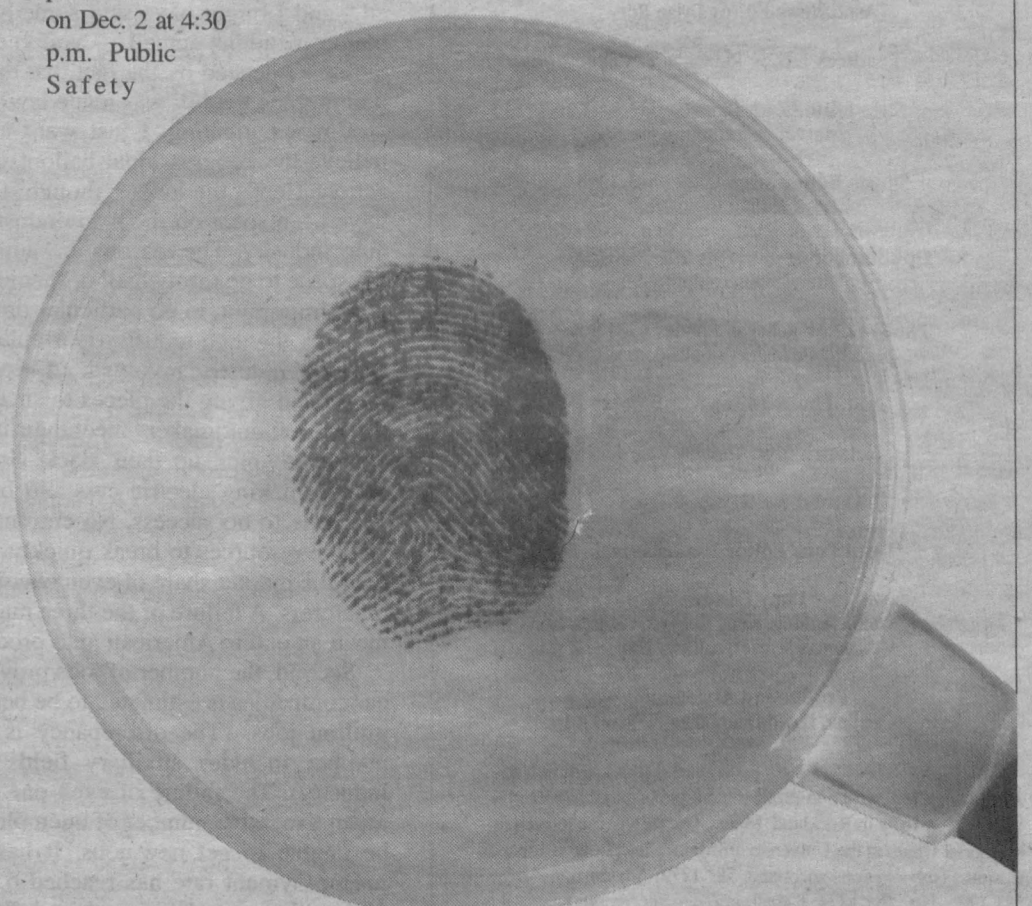
## Late reaction in hockey

An incident from the Nov. 21 hockey game was reported on Dec. 2 at 3:14 p.m. While at the hockey game, the subject had her purse on the ground next to her in the student section. A Nine West black wallet, containing ID, credit cards and a checkbook, was taken from her purse. She has cancelled her credit cards, and the matter is still under investigation.

## Like your eggs charred?

A fire alarm was triggered on 117 College Ave., formerly the fraternity house of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. The Orono Fire Department responded at 7:42 a.m. on Dec. 4, and determined the source to be overcooked food in the kitchen area. The alarm was reset.

**Compiled by  
Melinda Hart and  
Aislinn Sarnacki  
Staff Reporters**





# THE MAINE CAMPUS

The University of Maine student newspaper since 1875

## Referendum questions leave students confused

**The Issue:** SG presidential elections and the FEPC

**What we think:** Student referendum questions should be rewritten with more clarity, and students should be given the opportunity to vote again.

The Fair Election Practices Commission, working with University of Maine IT and the Office of Student Records, fell behind expectations on Monday and then Tuesday. Student Government presidential and vice-presidential voting was scheduled for Dec. 1. Because of technical errors, this did not happen.

Referendum Question 2 was ambiguous and misleading. It asked if the senate should be able to veto senate resolutions (see full text at [mainecampus.com](http://mainecampus.com)). What students really voted on was whether or not to revoke the presidential veto power.

It is beyond us to understand how two-thirds of the General Student Senate could have approved the referendums as they were written. Since they did, students were left confused as to what, exactly, they were voting for.

This situation could easily have been avoided. FEPC guidelines stipulate that the commission must post the referendum questions that students will vote on at least three days prior to the vote. Had this regulation been obeyed, students could have voiced concerns and the referendums could have been rewritten.

The senate should be as clear and direct in its referendum wording as possible, and the FEPC should obey its rules to ensure students know what they are voting for. The ambiguity of Question 2 misled students. It, along with Question 1, should not be counted until students vote again — this time with clear, honest wording.

The above editorial is written by the editorial board, whose members are Nick McCrea, Mario Moretto, Zach Dionne, Heather Steeves, Alicia Mullins, Dylan Riley, Rhiannon Sawtelle, Lisa Haberzettl and William P. Davis

**Editor in Chief** Nick McCrea  
eic@mainecampus.com

**Business Mgr.** Kelly Byrne · 581.1272  
business@mainecampus.com

**Asst. Business Mgr.** Allie Wicks

**Advertising Manager**  
David Dauphinee · 581.1276  
ads@mainecampus.com

**Asst. Advertising Manager** Shayna Collins

**Production Mgr.** Alicia Mullins · 581.1267  
production@mainecampus.com

**News Editor** Heather Steeves · 581.1270  
news@mainecampus.com

**Asst. News Editor** Dylan Riley

**Features Editor** Rhiannon Sawtelle

**Style Editor** Zach Dionne · 581.3061  
style@mainecampus.com

**Sports Editor** Adam Clark · 581.1268  
sports@mainecampus.com

**Opinion Editor** Mario Moretto · 581.3061  
opinion@mainecampus.com

**Photo Editor** Rebekah Rhodes · 581.3059  
photo@mainecampus.com

**Asst. Photo Editor** Amy Brooks

**Network Mgr.** Timothy Wagner

**Web Editor** William P. Davis

**Head Copy Editor** Lisa Haberzettl

**Copy Editors**

Megan Neff, Katelin Walling, Kaley Roberts, Chelsea Cameron, Thomas St. Pierre, Casey Hill

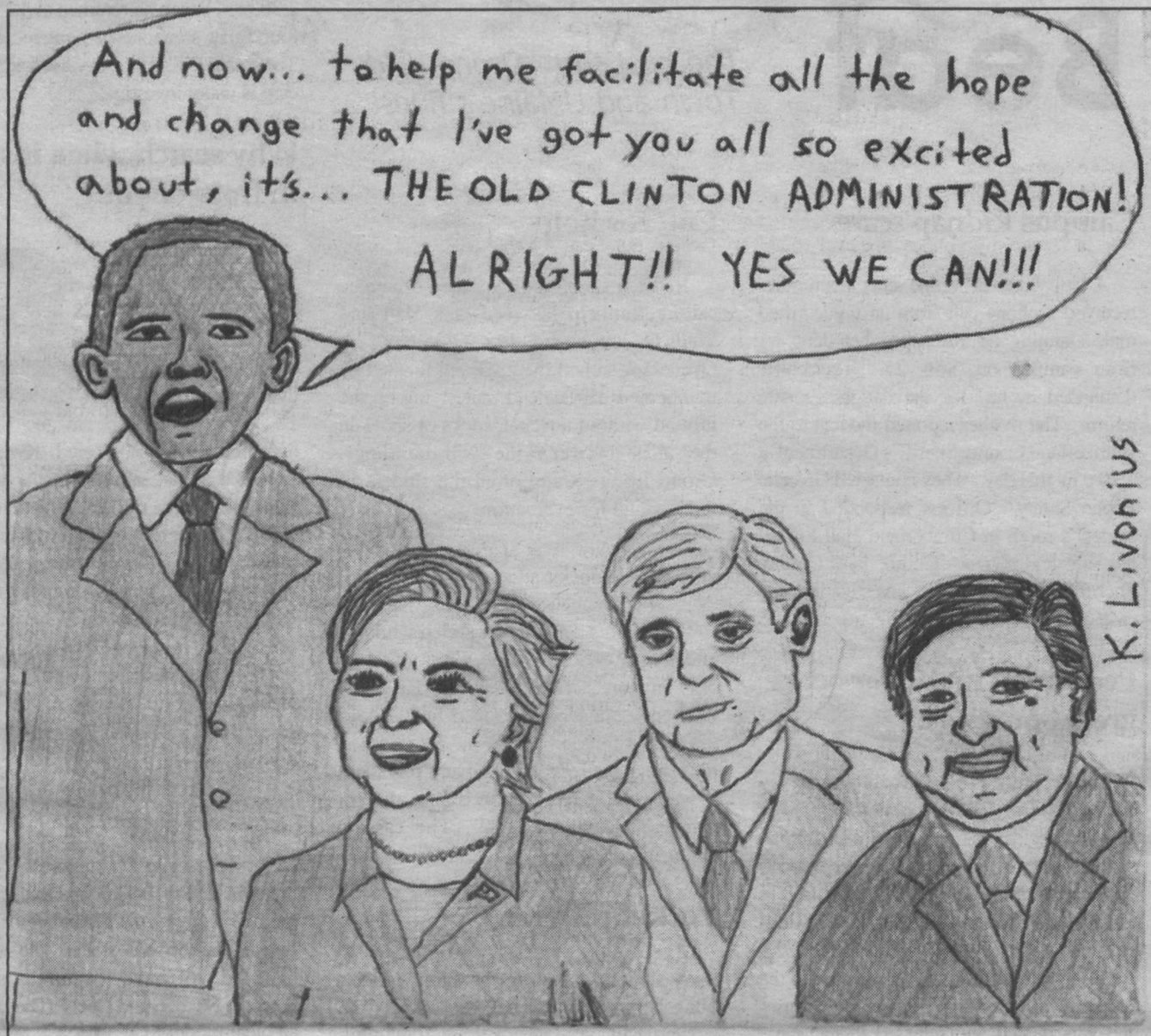
**Production Assistants**

Andrew Catalina, David Dauphinee, William P. Davis

The Maine Campus, a non-profit student publication, is printed at Village NetMedia in Rockland, Maine. Our offices are located in Memorial Union at the University of Maine. Telephone numbers: Business (subscriptions-accounts): 581.1272; Advertising: 581.1276; Fax: 581.1274; E-mail: [info@mainecampus.com](mailto:info@mainecampus.com). All content herein © 2008 The Maine Campus, unless otherwise noted. All rights reserved.

# Opinion

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2008



William P. Davis

## \$700 billion for the banks, and nothing for the Big 3. What gives, policymakers?

Earlier this semester, I wrote an article calling for the dismemberment of America's major financial institutions. My main point was that we should not be rewarding the "multi-billion dollar companies who so thoroughly screwed the American people," but I also called our major banks "bloated," and I might have said something to the effect that the bailout wouldn't actually — you know — work. Turns out it didn't, evidenced by the fact that the DOW has fallen 2,000 points since the bill was made law.

I'm not gloating, I just want to make clear that I still believe the congressional bailout was the wrong course of action. Here's the kicker, though: the money that shouldn't have been spent on the bank industry is now needed by the auto industry. The reasons are numerous, and I don't have the space to go through all of them here, but I'll touch on the most important, in no particular order.

First, the auto industry is irreplaceable. My plans for the banking industry involved, in essence, breaking up huge banks and giving the pieces to smaller, more local banks. If the Detroit automakers meet their impending doom, there is nobody to pick up their slack. Small startup automakers, mostly making electric cars and based in California, have had little to no success. No current American car company has the resources to break quickly into the market and take over the market share of even one, much less all three, manufacturers. A failure of the three major car companies would mean an end to American auto production.

Second, the number of jobs provided by America's major car companies is estimated to be between 2.5 million and 14 million jobs. (The discrepancy is caused by whether the number includes auxiliary fields supported by the auto industry). The failure of even one of the companies would mean a massive number of unemployed workers who would be unable to get new jobs. It has been reported that the unemployment rate has reached 6.7 percent, for a total of 10.6 million people unemployed. Well, that sucks, but imagine if that number doubled overnight.

Here's another one: our \$195 trillion trade debt deficit with China, the world's third-largest automobile manufacturer, and some \$56 trillion deficit with Japan, the world's largest automobile manufacturer. Want to guess who's the second-largest manufacturer?

So, here's an idea. Instead of killing a huge industry accounting for a sizable chunk of our GDP, let's help them out a bit. Keeping the industry alive will allow millions of people to keep their jobs, at the same time ensuring our massive trade deficits don't grow any larger. I can't imagine anybody consciously killing a whole industry, especially when it would mean handing a giant check to the Chinese.

Congress would rather waste everybody's time focusing on things like the transportation mode used by the executives to get to Washington than attempt to come up with a real solution. Don't get me wrong — I would've loved to see those CEOs drive to D.C. rather than fly, but it's a long trip, and traffic sucks. I can understand them flying; they're busy men. Besides, if they ever actually get around to debating the merits of a bailout for Detroit, there's a good chance they'll reject it.

There's hope yet, though. The new Congress, coming to town in a little more than one short month, seems much smarter on the issue. Our new president-elect does, as well. I guess all we can do is hope the companies will still be around by the time the new government takes office.

William P. Davis is Web editor for The Maine Campus.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 300 words in length and should include the author's name, address and academic major or job title. The Maine Campus reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity.

**The Maine Campus**  
5748 Memorial Union  
Orono 04469-5748  
[opinion@mainecampus.com](mailto:opinion@mainecampus.com)



## The choice for change must come from below as well as above

Walter Lazarz

Conservatives and Liberals alike now look back and admit President-elect Barack Obama ran the best presidential campaign this country has ever seen. Obama is inspirational because he is what our last two presidents were not. He displayed the sound judgment the office of the president has been missing for the past eight years. He has good judgment in personal matters, which were missing the last time a Democrat held such high office.

Obama is a family man who graduated from Harvard Law School. Any member of society can look up to him for his personal achievements. Simply by being himself and correcting others' mistakes, Obama will be what America desperately needs right now. He can simply stand for "change," but crises like those in the automotive and financial markets demand that he step forward with positive renovations for American life. To be successful, Obama must provide progressive leadership we can trust, which Clinton portrayed and which W. actively destroyed.

Yet, Americans must change too. In our democratic-capitalist nation, the weak must try to rise above, and the strong must try to be honest. The societal norms of the not-so-distant past are therefore troubling. Leadership allowed our country to become slave to the gas tank, while poor lifestyles of over-consumption somehow made being a red-neck a source of pride. We can do better than this. The strong in our society cannot grow fat with greed. Million-dollar pensions and political corruption should become personal embarrassments too great for any to endure. Meanwhile, the weak cannot live in modern sloth. Diets consisting of welfare checks and fast food create disastrous communities.

Every member of this nation can step forward. We should not lose the comforts of our modern life, but make

better decisions now that we have seen the dangers of a super-sized, irrationally exuberant world. The question our country faces is not, "can we try harder?" but "can we do better?" As we change, we can transform carefully, in the correct direction. If we focus on doing our best, freedom and prosperity will be limitless.

To be the best we can be, leaders and citizens alike must take charge. It will always be the responsibility of the powerful, wealthy and strong to care for the ignorant, poor and weak. This idea is not socialism, nor is it capitalism. This is not government, nor is it anarchy. Whether one is religious or atheist, we all understand the simultaneous imperfection and miracle of every life, and we see that this undertaking is just the right thing to do. In this way, each of us is aware of the opportunity to be better. We all have simple choices between right and wrong each day.

Having that choice is what can make America great. Efficient government, the free market, religious freedom and scientific innovation are all essential parts of our lives, but they are not the heart of America. In truth, the family is — and has always been — the soul of the Land of Opportunity. Our families determine the values with which we make our choices, defining the American way of life. The decisions of our president-elect pale in comparison to the ones we as ordinary citizens make every day. Voting and inspirational words are not the only actions we must take to renew. Despite the fear and inadequacy present in our world, we now have the opportunity to step forward to make America great again.

It is not only the responsibility of leaders to make the right decisions. This is still the land of opportunity. Every day, the choice is ours to make.

Walter Lazarz is a junior construction management student.



Laila Sholtz-Ames

## 'Happy Holidays?' Political correctness has gone too far

As we move closer to finals week and colder weather, we are also getting closer to the Christmas season. That's right, I said Christmas, not the "Holiday" season. I'm tired of this walking on eggshells and skating on thin ice in this whole politically-correct society that we live in. Americans are so afraid to say anything offensive that we constantly censor and edit ourselves to the point where we are not allowed to mention Christmas or anything related to that because — heaven forbid — someone might be offended. Here's the thing: I respect other people's opinions. I was raised in a household where Christmas was the major holiday, but we celebrated the winter solstice, the Feast of Saint Nicholas, the Feast of Saint Lucia, Hanukkah — even though we're not Jewish — and Kwanzaa, even though the rest of my family is Caucasian. Instead of pretending these holidays don't exist, why not embrace all faiths and beliefs and celebrate everything? Sure, it's harder, but aren't we, as college students, expected to expand our horizons and learn about other cultures and ways of life?

My mother works with preschool-aged children. Even at that age, they are not allowed to learn about holidays. Not just Christmas, but Halloween, Thanksgiving, Kwanzaa —, all the important days in our lives and history. Because we go so far to be "politically correct," it is costing us the chance to actually learn about each other and other traditions.

Don't get me wrong — I don't want to offend people. I understand people are sensitive and we all have our own thoughts and feelings. But in all honesty,

will people who don't celebrate Christmas really be offended by signs that say "Merry Christmas" or large Christmas trees with Christmas lights? A Christmas tree is a pagan symbol, after all. Perhaps some people might be offended, and I apologize, but for the remainder of people, just let us say Merry Christmas. Furthermore, I am a Resident Assistant. I want to plan activities and crafts for my residents. Whatever I do, I have to make sure I'm making a "holiday ornament" versus a Christmas ornament. If

I want to have coloring pages, I have to make sure they don't have pictures of Santa Claus or other Christmas figures. When my co-workers and I do the annual gift swap, we can't call it "Secret Santa". Instead, it's the "Secret Snowflake" or the "Yankee swap."

Does anybody else besides myself remember the ridiculous time when we could no longer use the word "French" because of the Iraq war conflict and the French not getting involved? Instead, everything became "freedom fries" or the "freedom hom." It's not quite the same thing, but let's not get to that point. Let's not start renaming all the holiday traditions and events. I think we can all come up with a compromise so that we do not end up overreacting. It doesn't have to be all or nothing. So let's go out there and have a Merry Christmas, or a Happy Kwanzaa or Hanukkah. Why not learn about each other's way of life? That way, we can all have a Happy Holiday.

Laila Sholtz-Ames is a junior journalism student.



Heather Steeves

## Something's wrong if your first read in college is the diploma

Walking back from the Recreation and Fitness Center on Monday night, I overheard a student say, "If I blow this one off, I'll have made it through high school and college without ever reading a book." He said this proudly to his friend, also a tall twenty-something in basketball shorts.

I will admit my bias. The only reason I go to the Rec Center is so I can read the latest editions of the New Yorker on the treadmill at an uphill walk. Nonetheless, how does a person make it through eight years of upper-level education without reading a book? I admit that I may have skimmed through "The Old Man and The Sea" in senior English, but this is a little over the top.

Last month, USA Today published that one in five college seniors and one in four first-years frequently go to class unprepared — and that most of them get A's.

It works. Lazy students who just don't care to do the work can get through the system with ease.

Sure, maybe "A Midsummer Night's Dream" won't get you your first after-college job, but I hope my future lawyers or gynecologists read a book instead of trying to slide through with the least amount of work possible — not so they could recite prose to me, but because it takes stamina and discipline to get through hundreds of pages. People with those skills are the type of people who should be getting college degrees and making it into the professional workforce.

Financial Aid is sucked dry, scholarships are shrinking, if not evaporating, and Gov. John

Baldacci asked the University of Maine to cut its budget by \$5.3 million. In times like these, maybe it is time for universities to raise their standards. UMaine's freshman class is bigger every year. Maybe we should be getting smarter rather than bigger.

If UMaine and its faculty raised standards to force students to prove they cared enough to do the work required of them, maybe we'd be a university other universities look up to. Maybe we could be admired, and maybe we would have the most dedicated, hard-working students. Maybe those students would have enough money through Financial Aid to go to school, while the slackers got cut.

It sounds like I'm blaming the faculty and UMaine, but when it comes down to it, this is college and no one can make a student do the work it will take for him or her to be prepared for his or her future career. But why would someone want to cheat themselves out of Poe's guilty conscience, Winston Smith's struggle against his 1984 government, Salinger's angst or Rodion Romanovich Raskolnikov's insanity? It is difficult to develop a worldview or insight into society and life if you don't consider the greats who came before us. Students who don't read make for less effective citizens and weigh our university down — all while cheating themselves of a full education and endless adventures and knowledge.

Heather Steeves would rather be drifting "Into the Wild" on a raft with "Huck Finn" in "1984" ... but she doubts you're reading this anyway.

### The Maine Campus Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • UMaine getting voted into the playoffs | • UMaine losing in the playoffs            |
| • Thanksgiving leftovers                 | • Fourth of July leftovers                 |
| • VH1's "HEAVY: The Story of Metal"      | • Everything else on VH1                   |
| • Beards                                 | • Chinstraps                               |
| • mainecampus.com version 2.0            | • bolt.com (any version, ever. Seriously.) |

Got something to say?  
**Write us.**

E-mail [opinion@mainecampus.com](mailto:opinion@mainecampus.com) for more info.



# Style & Culture

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2008

## the KING 'cade

Percy Clarke oversees UMaine's e-Sports arcade with 'a heart for students'

By Zach Dionne  
Style Editor

"To me, a quarter's a quarter. If you lose one today, another one tomorrow, that's 50 cents," said Percy Clarke, sitting on a bench in e-Sports, the Memorial Union arcade, which he manages. This is his domain, and this simple sentiment regarding the refund policy embodies his attitude toward his job: sweat the small stuff, pay attention to detail, and serve the patrons.

John Atwater, a senior who spends a self-proclaimed "little too much" time gaming, said, "Percy's the greatest thing around here. He's got to have a thousand friends. I mean, he's really solid gold. He takes care of you and he's so friendly when you, come in."

Percy is a positive man; he ends most statements with "that's good," and his eyes tend to crinkle with the beginning of a full-faced smile. He insists he is 39 years old,

despite having two adult children. "I wouldn't want to rock the boat too much. They might say 'Jeez, is he that old? Wow.'"

Senior Associate Dean of Students Kenda Scheele has been acquainted with Percy since she came to the University of Maine in 2001.

"Strong or stalwart are words I think about when I think of Percy," Scheele said. "To be still so positive and so motivated ... he really does have a heart for students. You couldn't find a kinder-hearted person."

"I'm kind of an outgoing fellow," said Percy, who calls his daughter Susan, who lives in California, his best friend. "I've made some great friends over the years and still have them."

Some of those friends are, naturally, the e-Sports regulars.

Matt Berard, a fifth-year student, has known Percy for two years — long enough for Percy to champion him "my

best DDR player."

"Every time I come in, I'll spend at least, like, 15, 20 minutes sitting around talking to him," Berard said. "He tells me how he's been, trips he's taken. I tell him how school's going, how my work's going."

*"Whatever I'm doing, I take it ... maybe more seriously than I should. All my life, I've been like that. And certainly this is no exception here."*

Percy Clarke  
Manager, e-Sports

"If you come in here more than a few times, you're going to have a conversation with Percy eventually," Atwater said.

Scheele invites Percy to her home several times each year and has attended university football games with him. "He's a great historian of the university," she said.

One of the resident pinball wizards of e-Sports, Atwater appreciates the regular game rotation and thinks at least one interesting machine is consistently offered. "Percy ... listens to everybody who comes in here. He wants to know what people like, and he really works hard with the people who bring the machines in," Atwater said.

"He knows the kids that like to play certain games, and he always tries to make sure they're ready for them," Scheele said.

Percy runs a suggestion box and usually receives several responses between his days at the arcade. He takes pride in the fact players can go directly to Student Affairs on the third floor of Memorial Union and claim a refund for any quarter-snatching malfunctions.

Percy had his left hip surgically replaced in 2005 and now comes in three days a week for four to five hours. He applies himself as dutifully as he did working in law, real estate and insurance in his earlier years.

"You sort of get out of what you put into it. Whatever I'm doing or into, I take it as seriously as ... maybe more seriously than I should. All my life, I've been like that. And certainly this is

no exception here," Percy said. He also works "from time to time" at MaineBound, sewing items and being a general handyman.

Percy has been manager of e-Sports since its inception in 2004. His fondness for the arcade business stretches back to 1987, when he joined the university staff in a more robust Memorial Union arcade that featured bowling alleys and pool tables. Scheele testified to Percy's passion for the job, calling him conscientious and detail-oriented.

"When things get broken, he pesters us incessantly until it gets fixed. He pushes, which is good," Scheele said. She recollected when a light above the pool table broke; Percy took it upon himself to repair vintage a Coca Cola pool lamp, having it mended by a stained glass worker in Brewer.

"He does whatever it takes, because the pool players wanted a light over the table. And it does make a huge difference," Scheele said.

"I think there's always a challenge," Percy said while sitting in e-Sports, mulling over his territory. "Like right now, I'm sitting here, I see clean floors, the games are all clean and checked over. I like to come in, of course, and have the challenge in the time I'm here to clean things up and make them right. Which I do. I know how to do it. So that's good."

"He wants to make this place as good as it can be for people," Atwater said.

Although Berard pictures Percy as "the friendly grandfather figure who always gave you treats," the humble manager is not wont to dwell on himself.

He attributes the arcade's mystique to the games as much as anything, with his top four attractions being dance game "In The Groove 2," pool, air hockey and "Big Buck

See **ARCADE**  
on page 13



Peter Buehner ♦ The Maine Campus  
"Strong or stalwart are words I think about when I think of Percy," Kenda Scheele said. "You couldn't find a kinder-hearted person."



# An interview with In Flames

Swedish metal act's bassist Peter Iwers chats in Worcester

By Zach Dionne  
Style Editor

Gothenburg, Sweden's In Flames pioneered a melodic style of metal named after their city. Their ninth studio album, "A Sense of Purpose," released in April, is the group's largest commercial success to date, debuting at 28th on the Billboard 200 chart in the U.S.

On their first North American headlining tour supporting the new record, In Flames came to The Palladium in Worcester, Mass. The Maine Campus joined bassist Peter Iwers for an extended chat covering the album, touring, the future, beer and "Guitar Hero."

Visit [mainecampus.com](http://mainecampus.com) for the complete interview transcript.

**Zach Dionne:** What's it like putting together a set list for In Flames? It must be tough — you've got over a hundred songs and only about 90 minutes to play when you're headlining.

**Peter Iwers:** When we rehearse, we try to be as flexible as possible. We try to rehearse as many songs ... and then we can easily take a few away, right away, that we don't feel like playing. You know, you don't get the vibe. What we did in Europe was that we had about 30 songs that we played, and then we mixed it up. Like one night, we would play a couple of, like four songs from a certain album and we would flip-flop them each night. I mean, it's getting harder and harder, but you have to throw in like, the singles that we have, the ... whatever, not hits, but so to speak. Then we try some new stuff that we haven't heard, haven't played in a while or that we maybe never played just that we feel could be cool. Like on this tour, we play "Satellites and Astronauts" [from 2000's "Clayman"] for the first time. Stuff like that. But that also makes it harder, then you have other stuff that you need to throw out again. I don't know how we do it; we fight and argue, and, you know, eventually we end up with what we want.

**ZD:** If you're busting out something like "Satellites and Astronauts," do you just listen back and remember what you played? Or do you even wonder what you played there?

**PI:** Yeah, we listen and remember. Remember or take it out — relearn it, basically.

**ZD:** Just by ear?

**PI:** Yeah.

**ZD:** Do you try to play something from every record?

**PI:** Yeah, we try to do that.

**ZD:** Critics and fans both are finally, I think, getting the point that there's no new "Jester Race" [1996] coming — that this is the direction things are going. Because after "Reroute to Remain" [2002] and "Soundtrack to Your Escape," [2004] people were saying "Oh, when are they going back to their roots? I hate this new direction." But since "Come Clarity" [2006] and "A Sense of Purpose," you're getting more people who are actually accepting and getting into it. How does that feel?

**PI:** Well, it feels like normal. I mean, we would never change anything regardless. But it's nice to hear you say that, actually. But there's always some bitching, always people who want you to go back to your roots or whatever. I mean, that was in '96, '95 it was written, and you know, we're different people. Me and Daniel [Svensson, drummer] weren't even in the band, so we can't sound like that. Plus all the songs were written more of a studio perspective than what they are today.

**ZD:** Do you get to see much of cities when you're touring? Or are you burned out and kind of just stay on the bus?

**PI:** I'm not burned out, but I try sleep as long as possible, as you can tell. Depends where we are, of course. I mean, if we're in a happening city, I want to go out and check it out. Most places we've been before. It's more of sights and stuff that I like to see; you



Zach Dionne ♦ The Maine Campus

In Flames "just think of being creative and having a pretty diverse set list," Peter Iwers said.

know, if you're close to Niagara Falls, I want to go there.

**ZD:** Have you seen it?

**PI:** Yeah.

**ZD:** Was it awesome?

**PI:** I thought it was cool. But otherwise I usually sleep. I'm a night person, so I stay up until 5 [a.m.] instead, hang out with people and go to clubs.

**ZD:** So you get some of the lifestyle of the area?

**PI:** Yeah.

**ZD:** I saw an American band in Birmingham, England, and it was my first time there, so I wanted to see the city as well as go to the show. It made me wonder if bands have the same mentality.

**PI:** Well, some people do, and some people don't. I mean, I'd like to do it, but when you're on tour as much as we are, I just want to get into the whole touring cycle, and since there's always late nights, you have to sleep late. Otherwise you get exhausted.

**ZD:** I can imagine. All right, I think this is something I think everybody wants every metal band to weigh in on: What do you think of the new Metallica CD, "Death Magnetic"?

**PI:** I think it's good, actually, yeah. First time the, I forget the first single, do you remember?

**ZD:** "The Day That Never Comes"?

**PI:** Yeah. The first time I heard that, I was thinking — I heard it on radio — and I was thinking, "What the f--- is this sh--? If it wouldn't be Metallica, nobody would sign this sh--." That's what I thought. But then I listened to the whole CD, and I listened to it over and over again — this song, especially — and no, I think it's really good. I think people want to ban them, people want to bash them, whatever, you know, because they're, you know, they're the biggest band in the whole world. And they put out a pretty crappy CD last time, but this time it's pretty decent. It's never going to be what it was then, you know, in the '90s and everything like that, like "The Black Album" and "...And Justice For All." And I think if you expect that, then you will always be disappointed. But it is what it is. I think it's really good.

**ZD:** Do you have any favorite songs on your new album?

**PI:** I pretty much like the whole record. Even the extra songs we had, you know, everything was written and everything, for us, was equally good. So it was really hard to take some songs out and decide what was going to be on the record. I don't really have a favorite one.

**ZD:** Any all-time favorite songs from the discography of In Flames?

**PI:** I think, you know, 10 years after In Flames is done, I'll sit down and I'll listen to it and then I can choose one. But each record is an emotion for me, you know, I had something personal on each record and some things are good or not so good. So it's more like that, you know — more how I felt at the time.

**ZD:** Do you have any American beers you

See **IN FLAMES** on page 13

# Campus overrun by undead

Alpha Delta initiates Humans vs. Zombies game this week

By Spencer Morton  
Staff Reporter

Screams of pain and anguish may resonate across campus this week. Don't worry — it's only a zombie invasion.

The Alpha Delta fraternity will host a campus-wide, week-long game of Humans vs. Zombies starting Monday at 6 p.m. Students flooded the sign-up table in the union last week, with more than 150 players set to participate thus far.

"Humans vs. Zombies is like a massive game of tag and assassin," said Alpha Delta pledge and HvZ co-coordinator Christopher Webber. "This is the first game of its kind to be played in Orono, so we're really excited."

At 6 p.m., all players will receive colored bandanas indicating whether they will start out as humans or zombies. Humans will have yellow bandanas; zombies will sport red. The rules are simple: Zombies must tag as many humans as possible. When a zombie tags a human, they will be turned and acquire the taste for blood.

Humans will have the opportunity to defend themselves by frantically running for their lives, shooting zombies with Nerf guns or hitting them with socks. Shooting or hitting a zombie will freeze it for 15 minutes — long enough for the human to make an escape.

"I'm hoping to survive as a human, mostly because I went out and purchased a Nerf Maverick REV-6 gun, and my roommate and I are splitting 100 extra Nerf-bullets," John Talbot, HvZ participant, said in an e-mail. "Plus we get to throw socks."

The game will conclude on either Friday or Saturday, depending on how many humans are left alive. The zombie with the most kills will be awarded with a certificate and possibly a trophy, as will the remaining humans.

The event was initiated because the

Alpha Delta pledges are encouraged to organize some sort of charitable event. Webber, along with fellow pledges Matt Beaulieu and Evan Miliano, decided to use HvZ as a jumping-off point to collect donations for the Good Shepherd Food Bank.

"We are collecting both food and money to give to the food bank," Webber said. "For every one dollar we raise, Good Shepherd will turn it into \$12 worth of food through their connections with local supermarkets."

Preliminary numbers show their efforts have raised approximately \$78, meaning Good Shepherd Food Bank will be able to provide \$936 worth of food to those in need.

HvZ participant Kathrine Anderson stated in an e-mail that she enjoys campus-wide events like these because they help bring the community together and give students an opportunity to make new friends. She also professed her desire to be a zombie.

Anderson may be the minority in that sense. Many players are savoring the opportunity to save themselves and others in the midst of chaos and carnage.

"It will be pretty cool to fight off the zombie horde and protect mankind, all on the way to English class," Matthew Macone said in an e-mail. "There aren't a whole lot of fun things to do around campus, and when the idea of killing zombies is presented, how can you not participate?"

Whether human or zombie, it's all about teamwork, strategy and having fun for a good cause. Jon Silber said in an e-mail, "My current plans are to be the last human standing; maybe go down in a blaze of glory. If I do get bitten, I intend to feast on the remaining humans liberally."

Nerf darts will fly. Old gym socks will be launched. Flesh-eating zombies will be on the prowl. The final human resistance will join forces to survive. Sounds like a bloody good time.

# Student comedy champ crowned

Last Comic Standing's two finalists face off in a flurry of funny

By Spencer Morton  
Staff Reporter

Airport security checkpoints, Thanksgiving, "High School Musical 3" and Bangor Car Care commercials are what won Joe Burnham the title of Last Comic Standing on Friday night.

At the annual University of Maine stand-up comedy contest Burnham proved to be too much for fellow finalist Chris Drozell. Burnham's subtle, sometimes self-deprecating humor was reminiscent of NBC's "Last Comic Standing" star Ralphie May.

Drozell was also a laugh-riot, poking fun at SmartCars, deer warning systems on vehicles and Facebook stalkers. The crowd laughed raucously, responding favorably to both performers. In the end, Burnham triumphed with 87 of the 130 votes.

"I feel really good. I'm glad I won, but I'm really just happy people laughed," Burnham said. "Chris did really well. He did a nice job of warming them up for me."

Last year's winner, Zach Hunt, was the evening's master of ceremonies, performing stand-up of his own before, between and after the competitor's sets. Hunt's humor was a bit more risqué and edgy than the others — i.e. panda abortions and monkey sex — but proved to be unbearably

funny at times.

"I'm just really glad I was in the competition last year, because both of these guys were absolutely hilarious. I wouldn't have had a chance," Hunt said. "It's the best Last Comic Standing competition I've seen since I've been here."

For winning, Burnham will receive his own one-hour, Friday night comedy special at UMaine, traditionally reserved for professional comedians. He also received two tickets to Boston for a comedy show.

"I'm excited about the prize, and definitely excited about having my own one-hour comedy show," Burnham said. The date for his night of comedy is yet to be determined, but will happen in the spring semester.

UMaine's Last Comic Standing has become one of the Campus Activity Board's most successful annual events. According to CAB, the competition was much more well-attended than in years past.

All audience members were given raffle tickets prior to the show. Ten raffle winners received an assured spot in line during finals week, when CAB will host a Build-A-Bear workshop in the union. One lucky winner got to sit right up front in "the best seat in the house," a couch stocked full of refreshments and snacks.



## CD: KANYE WEST

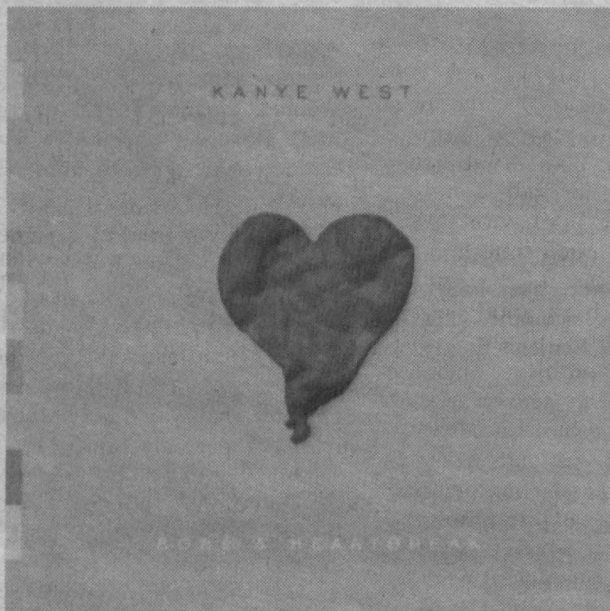


Photo courtesy Roc-A-Fella Records

By Kegan Zema  
Staff Reporter

Kanye West's fourth studio album, "808s & Heartbreak," is more than just a collection of songs. For West, it represents a number of things. First, it marks a completely new era of his music — a departure from hip-hop and the creation of a new genre he is referring to as "pop-art." It is also an emotional summation of the past year of his life, during which his mother passed away and his fiancée left him. The biggest thing it represents though, is that Kanye has established himself as an artist unwilling to compromise himself.

Those familiar with the fashionista and producer/rapper probably know him for two things: his music and his ego. Both are integral parts of Kanye, but both speak for themselves. The 10-time Grammy Award-winning artist has established himself in the industry by creating phenomenal hip-hop albums. His ingredients are simple — amazing production and lyrical genius. West started his career as a producer — remember Jay-Z's "H.O.V.A."? West and his success in using samples ranging from Daft Punk to Thom York to Ray Charles led

to mega hits such as "Gold Digger" and "Stronger." But the question on everyone's mind after the release of this album has been, "What happens when he changes the formula?"

The answer: "808s & Heartbreak" is a musical masterpiece, drenched in real human emotion. The risks Kanye took by making an album with no rapping were tremendous. He has two guest spots by Young Jeezy and Lil' Wayne, but the album is otherwise sung entirely by Kanye using the robotic-sounding Auto-Tune recently popularized by T-Pain. What had potential to be a disaster is an album characterized by some of the best audio engineering and production, with more hooks than a tackle box.

By definition, the album is a pop/R&B album. However the last time I heard such a well-made, not to mention heartfelt, pop album was a little album called "Thriller." I am not about to say Kanye is now the king of pop, but he is certainly on his way to becoming the prince.

Track by track "808s" examines West's struggle with fame, celebrity, heartbreak and loss. The heavy-hitting "Welcome to

See **KANYE** on page 13

Visit [mainecampus.com](http://mainecampus.com) for Kegan Zema's  
Web exclusive review of the new Guns N' Roses album,  
"Chinese Democracy."

## FILM: "FOUR CHRISTMASES"

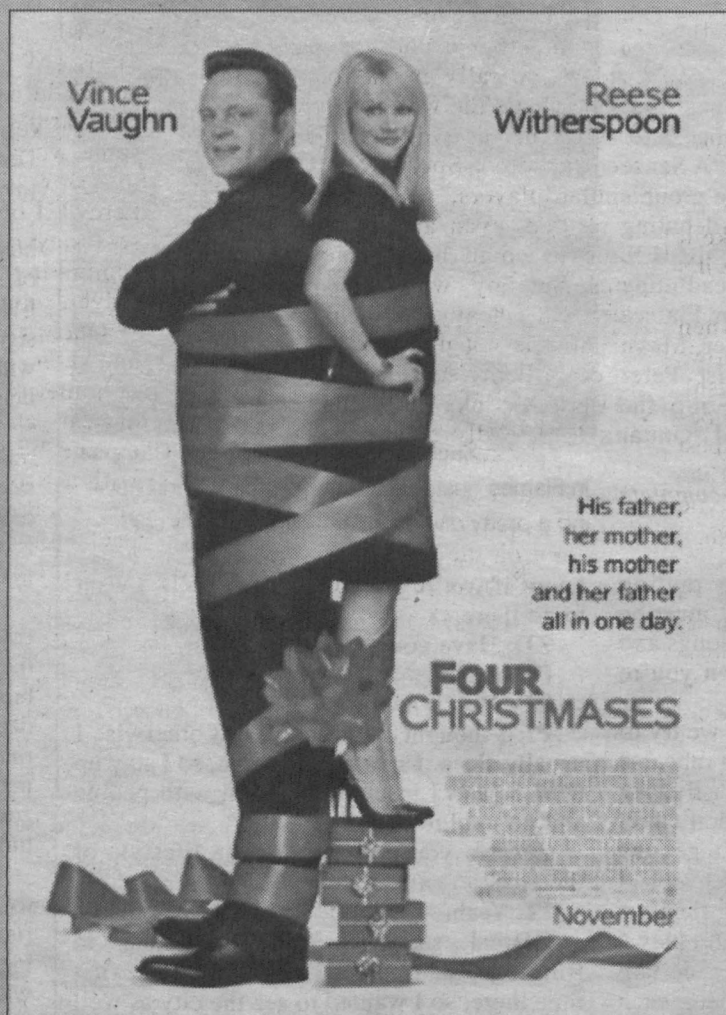


Photo courtesy New Line Cinemas

By Kayla Riley  
For The Maine Campus

Picture the idyllic Christmas, complete with fresh snowfall, cherished family moments and meaningful gifts. Now destroy that image because "Four Christmases" denounces the myth of a Merry Christmas once and for all. "Four Christmases" is rom-com gone wrong, as a very unhappy couple flits from one dysfunctional family gathering to the next without an iota of glee or cheer. Those who enjoy holiday movies overflowing with happy endings and sentiment, steer clear.

Brad (Vince Vaughn) and Kate (Reese Witherspoon) form the stereotypical jet-set metro couple, refusing to

adhere to ancient social constructs like marriage and child-rearing. They are too cool for rings and diapers, and as it turns out, they're too cool for their own families. Each year as the holidays roll around, they come up with a far-fetched excuse to miss the family fetes.

But just as Brad and Kate are about to embark on yet another scuba-diving, massage-receiving, tropical holiday escape, bad weather sets in, preventing their plane from taking off. With a news camera catching the footage and broadcasting it live, they are faced with a fate worse than death — family time on Christmas. Sarcasm, headlocks, inappropriateness, a flashy nativity scene and hijinks ensue.

"Four Christmases" tries four times as hard as it should. With two A-listers in leading roles and Christmas right around the corner, success should be a given, but this film is more hollow than a Christmas bulb. Although Mary Steenburgen, as Kate's flighty mother, and Robert Duvall, as Brad's raucous father, provide a few laughs, they can't keep the story afloat.

Vaughn's usually amusing rants and tangents come off here as irritating immaturity. Witherspoon, who usually shines in these roles, offers little, save for a few slapstick, gross-out moments. Sparing full blame for this disparaging film on the actors, the dialogue leaves much to be desired. In the end, "Four Christmases" is a holiday version of the same old story that has been played out countless times in romantic comedies.

It seems that conceptually, this was meant to be an easy-going comedy to lighten up the holiday season and remind people why they avoid their families. But toward the conclusion, "Four Christmases" tries to pull off tenderheartedness and falls into mawkish awkwardness. At times, it's hard to know whether to laugh for their sake or to feel uncomfortable.

To its credit, the plot delivers some decent laughs and may amuse a few undemanding moviegoers. Here is a film boasting the grown-up Ralphie (from "A Christmas Story," Peter Billingsley) as producer, not to mention five Oscar-winning actors, the cute and funny Witherspoon and brash, quippy Vaughn in leading roles. And still, walking out of the theater is like waking up to a package of socks on Christmas morning — it just isn't what you were hoping for. At least there's always next year.

Grade: C

## The Reel Deal: Vintage Movie Reviews



By Kayla Riley

'Tis the season to shoot your eye out, drop the f-bomb and show a bully who's boss. At least that's the lesson 1983's "A Christmas Story" teaches us. In this crass flick, there are no sugary morals or emphasis on family values. It is Christmas, dressed down — way down. "A Christmas Story" is to the holidays what the

creepy overweight uncle is to your family reunion: it makes people uncomfortable but without it, the holidays just wouldn't be the same.

Set in northern Indiana in the 1940s, the flick follows the life of 9-year-old Ralphie Parker as he tries to convince his parents, teacher and even Santa that he deserves a Red Ryder BB gun for Christmas — to be precise, his dream gift is "an official Red Ryder carbine-action 200-shot range model BB rifle with a compass in the stock." Unfortunately for Ralphie, this pursuit falls under the "easier said than done" category.

Jean Shepherd narrates as a reflective little Ralphie Parker and fittingly articulates the struggles and drama in the life of a young boy. Each time Ralphie expresses

his desire for the Red Ryder rifle, he is met with the same adage: "You'll shoot your eye out, kid!" With despair, Ralphie faces the possibility he may not receive the ultimate present on Christmas morning.

Sadly for Ralphie, but joyously for us, life doesn't get much better from there. A snot-nosed, yellow-eyed bully is after him, cold flagpoles pose a threat, grumpy elves reign supreme and certain aunts should stay away from pink fabric and sewing machines.

Cable stations have taken to holding 24-hour marathons of this oddball, roundabout Christmas classic. Local stations won't touch it. If you've seen it or decide to see it, you might just understand where they're coming from. "A Christmas Story" pushes the proverbial envelope and then goes

a little further. Here, little kids are not rosy-cheeked angels sipping hot chocolate and making snowmen — they are alternately idiotic and violent. Parents are not sweet and congenial — they're angry and sexist. Santa isn't jolly and welcoming; he's bitter and irritable. Enjoy the ride.

It's the kind of story that may not warm your heart, but will remind you of your own insane family. It might cause you to reminisce about a time when the quality of your life hinged on whether or not you got the Christmas present you were after. Even when Ralphie's family attempts to follow the traditional model of a Christmas dinner, they fail epically. Just wait until you find out what a Chinese turkey is.

By the end of this film, you want Ralphie's family to live hap-

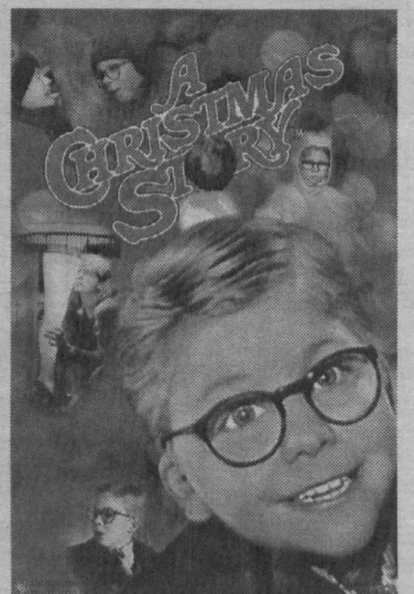


Photo courtesy Warner Brothers

pily ever after. You want Ralphie to get his BB gun, even if it turns out he could lose an eye. Take it from me, "A Christmas Story" is the ultimate must-see for Scrooges the world over.

Grade: A-

Visit [mainecampus.com](http://mainecampus.com) to view clips from "A Christmas Story"



## In Flames

from page 11

like when you come here?

**PI:** Well, you're going to kill me, but I drink Bud Light – same as over there [in Europe].

**ZD:** Really?

**PI:** I like Bud Light, yeah.

**ZD:** Oh ... do you like darker beers?

**PI:** Darker beers I don't like, no.

**ZD:** Really, aw...

**PI:** I mean, I wouldn't say that I like it for the taste of it, but I like it because it's so easy to drink.

**ZD:** In the very beginning, when you're just a small band playing shows around Gothenburg, why sing in English?

**PI:** I think because everybody else does it in the beginning, I guess. That's the best way, it feels, to reach out to the rest of the world. If you want something said, you know, most people understand English, I guess. I don't know.

**ZD:** So do you think there was a grander scheme, then? Because if you're just starting a band as 19- and 20-year-olds, you probably don't think you're going to play in England soon or people in America will hear your record.

**PI:** I mean, in Gothenburg, we all grew up together and some bands got to travel outside of Sweden before the others, and that was a huge inspiration. Like At The Gates, you mentioned before, they were one of the first bands that got to play abroad and, you know, everybody was inspired by that and started doing the same – or, actually, I guess, everybody already did it. But just how it happened. I don't think anybody really thought about it, that it's going to be in English, because it's just natural.

**ZD:** Wow, that's interesting. Do you have any kind of questions or specific questions you hate when you're getting interviewed?

**PI:** I don't like to talk about lyrics, because I don't know what they're about.

**ZD:** [laughs] Alright, sorry I gave you that one.

**PI:** No, no, no, I don't hate it; I just don't really know that much about it.

**ZD:** What about more general band questions you dislike?

**PI:** Nah, nothing in particular. I'll tell you when you get there.

**ZD:** I've seen so many questions in interviews where I wonder why they'd ask you something like that when you could just find it on Wikipedia.

**PI:** Except, yeah, yeah, that's one thing I hate: "Tell us your band's history." We've been around for like 17 years. You can find out before you come here.

**ZD:** This is a less serious question – what do you think was a bigger change for the band: When Anders got dreadlocks or when Bjorn [Gelotte, guitar] shaved his long hair?

**PI:** Didn't care, either one of the times. [both laugh]

**PI:** I think a lot of people care, and Bjorn hates those questions, you know, "Why did you cut your hair?"

**ZD:** I wouldn't ask why, but...

**PI:** No, but a lot of people do that. And I remember when Anders got dreads, and all the people here, all of a sudden we were "core." I was like, why would we be?

**ZD:** Still playing "Guitar Hero" or are you bored of it? [In Flames' track "Take This Life" is featured in "Guitar Hero III"]

**PI:** No, I'm not bored of it, but we don't have any game in this bus for some reason.

**ZD:** Who's the best, now that you've been playing for a while?

**PI:** Oh, I don't know. Daniel, probably.

**ZD:** Really? Got the rhythm thing going on?

**PI:** Yeah, he's really eager to play it.

**ZD:** I think that's pretty much what I wanted to ask you. This was Peter Iwers – tack sa mycket [thank you very much in Swedish].

## Arcade

from page 10

Hunter."

"The players come in to relax between classes and so forth, and most of them take it not seriously," Percy said. "Generally it's a form of relaxation. That's the way we like it."

Walk-ins as well as repeat visitors are drawn to e-Sports. "We do have our regular players, yes we do. We have some that, even after graduation, continue to come back. Primarily weekends, but boy, when they come back, they play heavy; \$20 in the change machine is not unusual. And they play all day," Percy said, laughing.

Berard thinks he'll miss the arcade and its friendly manager after graduation. "I might make special trips just to come up and say hi."

Percy described 2008 as "an off year," citing the economy. "People just don't really have the money. I have kids come in and look on the floor now to see if they can find a quarter ... so they can play. That's pretty tight, you know? In the hey-days, I'd pick up a ... dollar-and-a-half right off the floor, a lot of times, when I came in, in the morning. Today I picked up 11 cents. You can see what's happening," he said.

The arcade also felt the effect of the blocked bottom entrance to the Union

during the Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King Plaza construction. "[Students] found different routes, you know, and they've taken those," Percy said. "We had a big, steady traffic. We don't have that now."

With the task of maintaining e-Sports, Percy stays away from the games himself. "I don't play; I found out that it's best that I don't. I try to get some work done and somebody comes in, 'How about playing pool with me, Percy?' I only have so much time here, so I stay right away from it," he said, ruminating. "I used to be a good pool player, though. I probably still am."

Once an avid snowmobiler, fisher and skier, Percy has been a season ticket holder for UMaine football for several years and occasionally attends hockey and basketball games – he speaks with a strong knowledge of the university football squad. He likes to kick back at home with old episodes of Andy Griffith and "Sanford and Son." "I get reruns of those, and I still enjoy them."

He is an all-around Boston sports fan; baseball is his favorite. "I made it," he said with relief about seeing the Red Sox win the World Series.

Percy has no plans to retire. "I plan to be around as long as I can. 'Cause I enjoy it. I enjoy the young people; I enjoy my work, and that's important [to] make me happy."



Peter Buehner ♦ The Maine Campus

"I don't play; I found out that it's best that I don't. I try to get some work done and somebody comes in, 'How about playing pool with me, Percy?' I only have so much time here, so I stay right away from it," Percy said, ruminating. "I used to be a good pool player, though. I probably still am."

## Kanye

from page 12

"Heartbreak" opens, "My homie showed me pictures of his kids / All I could show him was pictures of my cribs." Countless other examples have Kanye putting his heart out on a platter. The combination of two slower, ethereal songs, "Street Lights" and "Bad News," at the end of the album broadcasts a side of Kanye rarely seen behind his myriad of designer sunglasses.

His singles are absolute fire, too. The pounding bass in "Love Lockdown," the beats in "Heartless" – all perfect. Perhaps the best song of all is "Paranoid," which comes halfway through the album. Kanye has repeatedly said in interviews and on his blog that he has been trying to make sing-along anthems; I've been singing along to every single track.

Here's the bad news: Kanye West can't sing. The good news is, it doesn't matter. Consider a few artists who "can't sing" by many people's standards: Kurt Cobain, Bon Scott of AC/DC and even Bob Dylan have all been criticized. West's Auto-Tune isn't a crutch but an effect. He distorts his voice as well on some songs. The theme is heartbreak, and West sings like he feels: a little less than human.

What's more is that originally, Kanye couldn't rap either. Countless record companies turned Kanye West the rapper away, only wanting Kanye the producer. As his skills developed, he turned into the Kanye West everyone knows. Give him a tour's worth of belting out these songs and people may shut their mouths.

The reason this album is "Amazing" (track four), is that an artist so well-known was able to turn around and make something so different and beautiful just by writing the music his emotions led him to. He admitted in a New Zealand press conference that he went to work in the studio to hide from his emotional pain.

Kanye West has gotten a lot of flack for being so egotistical. His most recent interview proclamation was, "I will go down as the voice of this generation, of this decade, I will be the loudest voice." This is perhaps saying a bit much, but really, what will we remember from this decade? In this information age, we've got a whole lot of voices. To stand out, one needs to create something special and original, something Kanye West has always done. On "808s & Heartbreak," he's solidified himself as one of the most innovative and inspiring artists of the decade – which isn't too far off from "the loudest voice." **Grade: A**

# Student Appreciation Sale!

## Dec. 15 - Dec. 19

\*Sale excludes the following: Textbooks, Diploma Frames, Specialty Orders, Supplies and Sundries. This sale cannot be combined with other offers, discounts or coupons.

## 25% off UMaine Clothing & Gifts\*

**Adult Reg. \$67.99  
Sale \$44.20**

**Youth Reg. \$58.99  
Sale \$38.34**



Come on in or shop online: [www.bookstore.umaine.edu](http://www.bookstore.umaine.edu)

## 35% Off UMaine Hockey Jersey ALL December!



All events are free unless otherwise noted.

# go! calendar

## arts

### MUSIC

Guitar Ensemble Concert  
Wednesday Dec. 10  
7:30 p.m.  
Minsky Recital Hall

2nd Annual Christmas Rock Spectacular!  
Feat. Rotundo Sealeg The Rattlesnakes, Wood  
Burning Cat and The 500s  
Sunday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.  
Keith Anderson Community Center  
\$5

### LECTURES

US Aspirations for a 'New World Order' in the  
era of the Two World Wars  
by Patrick Cohrs, of Yale University  
Monday, Dec. 8  
3 p.m.  
Soderberg Auditorium

The Lost Monologues: Five Franco American  
Portraits  
Grégoire Chabot and his theatre troupe will  
present his most recent writings  
Monday Dec. 8  
7 p.m.  
140 Bennet Hall

"Spy" vs. "I": Domestic Surveillance and Free  
Speech  
by Sunny Hughes, part of the CMJ Research  
Colloquia Series  
Tuesday Dec. 9  
3:45 p.m.  
401 Dunn Hall

The Energy Crisis: How Will It Affect the  
UMaine Community?  
by Valerie Carter, Research Associate, Bureau  
of Labor Education and others  
Wednesday Dec. 10  
1:30 p.m.  
Bangor Room, Memorial Union

### LITERATURE

Emily Dickinson birthday reading by Honors  
and English faculty and students  
Bring a Dickinson poem and join the reading  
Refreshments served  
Monday, Dec. 8  
4 p.m.  
University Bookstore

### THEATER

Penobscot Theatre presents ...  
A Year with Frog and Toad  
Dec. 10-23  
Penobscottheatre.org for ticket info

### ART

Celebrities and Socialites: Photographs by  
Andy Warhol  
Through Jan. 3, 2009  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
University of Maine Museum of Art  
Bangor

Angelo Ippolito exhibit  
Through Jan. 3, 2009  
9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.  
University of Maine Museum of Art  
Bangor

### FUN

Fall Dance Showcase  
Thursday Dec. 11 and Friday Dec. 12  
7:30 p.m.  
Hauck Auditorium, Memorial Union



## sports

Men's Basketball vs. Colgate  
Monday Dec. 8  
7 p.m.  
Alfond Arena

Women's Basketball at Hofstra  
Tuesday Dec. 9  
7 p.m.  
Hempstead, N.Y.

Men's Basketball at Oklahoma  
Wednesday Dec. 10  
8 p.m.  
Norman, Okla.

Women's Ice Hockey vs. Union  
Friday Dec. 12  
2 p.m.  
Alfond Arena

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Union  
Friday Dec. 12  
7 p.m.  
Alfond Arena

Track and Field at New Hampshire  
Saturday Dec. 13  
12 p.m.  
Durham, N.H.

Women's Ice Hockey vs. Union  
Saturday Dec. 13  
2 p.m.  
Alfond Arena

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Union  
Saturday Dec. 13  
7 p.m.  
Alfond Arena

Women's Basketball at Harvard  
Sunday Dec. 14  
2 p.m.  
Cambridge, Mass.

## movie showtimes

**SPOTLIGHT CINEMAS**  
6 Stillwater Avenue, (207)827-7411

Role Models  
12:30 p.m., 3:00, 5:10, 7:25, 9:45

Bolt  
12:20 p.m., 3:00, 5:00, 7:15, 9:25

Four Christmases  
12:25 p.m., 3:10, 5:15, 7:25, 9:40

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa  
12:25 p.m., 3:05, 5:05, 7:20, 9:30

Quantum of Solace  
12:20 p.m., 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50

Twilight  
12:30 p.m., 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

**BANGOR MALL CINEMAS 10**  
557 Stillwater Avenue, (207)942-1303

Role Models  
3:55 p.m., 8:55

Australia  
12:30 p.m., 4:20, 8:00

Bolt  
1:40 p.m., 3:40, 5:40, 7:40

Four Christmases  
1:20 p.m., 3:20, 5:20, 7:40, 9:40

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa  
2:00 p.m., 4:30, 6:25, 8:30

Punisher: War Zone  
2:20 p.m., 4:45, 7:20, 9:45

Quantum of Solace  
1:30 p.m., 2:30, 5:00, 6:20, 7:30, 9:55

Transporter 3  
1:50 p.m., 4:00, 7:10, 9:35

Twilight  
1:00 p.m., 2:15, 3:30, 4:50, 6:30, 7:25,  
9:00, 10:00

**MOVIE MAGIC CINEMAS**  
268 Odlin Road, (207)941-9419

Beverly Hills Chihuahua  
12:20 p.m., 4:55

Changeling  
2:15 p.m., 6:50

Eagle Eye  
12:10 p.m., 9:10

Fireproof  
11:50 a.m., 2:20 p.m., 6:55

High School Musical 3: Senior Year  
12:00 p.m., 2:25, 4:40, 7:05, 9:20

Rachel Getting Married  
12:05 p.m., 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:30

RocknRolla  
11:55 a.m., 2:35 p.m., 4:50, 7:15, 9:25

Soul Men  
4:35 p.m., 9:15

The Secret Life of Bees  
2:30 p.m., 4:45, 7:00

Zack and Miri Make a Porno  
12:15 p.m., 2:45, 5:05, 7:10, 9:05

Have an event you want added to the go! calendar? Send an e-mail with the time, date and place of your event to William P. Davis on FirstClass

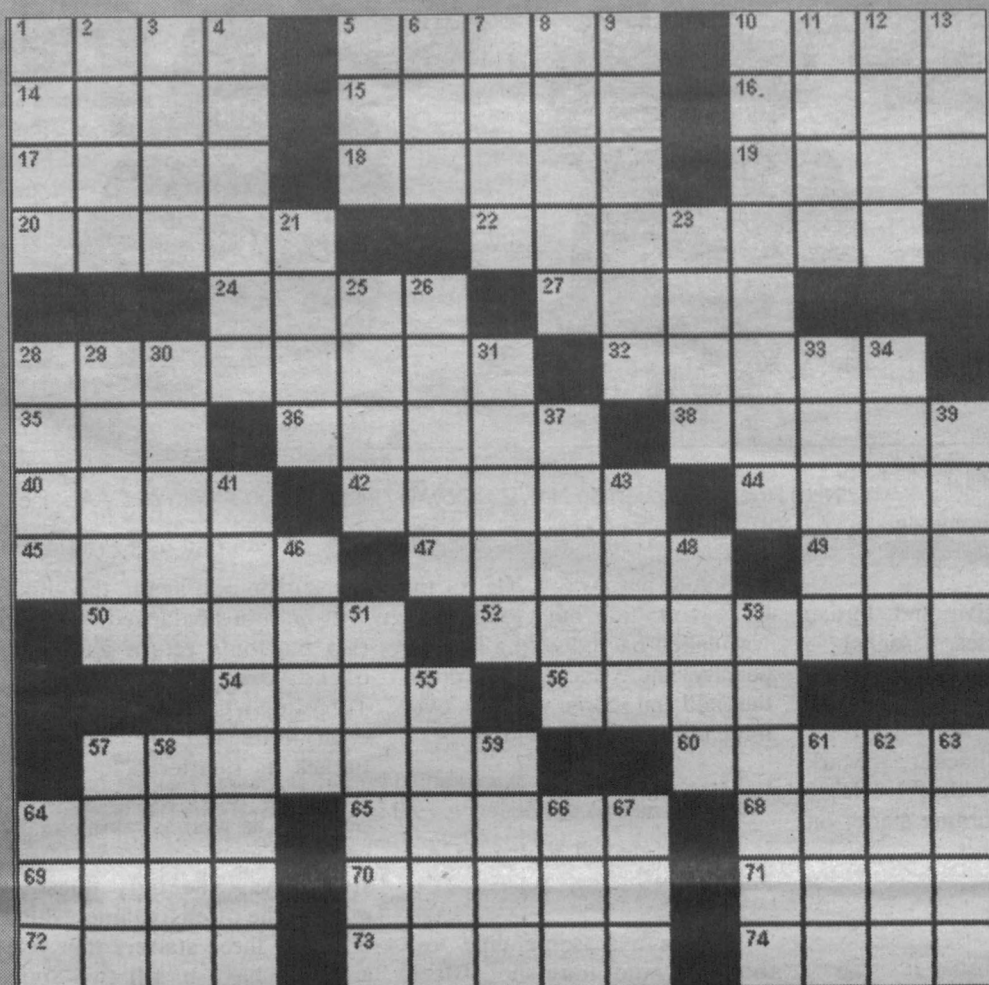


# The Maine Campus

# DISTRACTIONS

## The Maine

## CROSSWORD



ANSWER KEY FOUND IN SPORTS

### ACROSS

- 1- Skills
- 5- Japanese dish
- 10- Put on the payroll
- 14- Witty remark
- 15- Conjunction
- 16- Switch suffix
- 17- Consumer
- 18- Prepares for billiards
- 19- Get up
- 20- Gillette razors
- 22- Postmortem examination
- 24- Come again?
- 27- Female horse

- 28- Difficulty in speech articulation
- 32- Gate fastener
- 35- "Sure thing"
- 36- Tends
- 38- Pale reddish purple
- 40- Neat rival
- 42- 4th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 44- Atlantic mackerel
- 45- Bar, legally
- 47- Garlic sauce
- 49- One-time link
- 50- Tending to a definite end
- 52- Baby's cradle
- 54- Escaping fluid

### DOWN

- 1- Water, abroad
- 2- Corrosion
- 3- A wedding cake may have three of these
- 4- Spread out
- 5- Big
- 6- Italian article
- 7- Director Vittorio De
- 8- Bunkum
- 9- Position, in Britain
- 10- Caused by herpes
- 11- Coloured part of the eye
- 12- Promising
- 13- Fair-hiring abbr.
- 21- Fraud
- 23- Spoken
- 25- Put on it!
- 26- Fungal infection of the skin or nails
- 28- Unit of force
- 29- Brewer's need
- 30- Malice
- 31- Improvise
- 33- Unsoiled
- 34- Poker Flat chronicler
- 37- European ermine
- 39- Outer garment
- 41- Reinvestment of funds
- 43- Likewise
- 46- Painter Mondrian
- 48- Egyptian goddess of fertility
- 51- Doze
- 53- Light up
- 55- Retains
- 57- Trudge
- 58- Graph prefix
- 59- Repudiate
- 61- Fighting
- 62- Trial
- 63- "quam videri" (North Carolina's motto)
- 64- South American tuber
- 66- Last mo.
- 67- Exclamation of relief;

Crossword puzzles provided by  
BestCrosswords.com  
Used with permission.

## SUDOKU PUZZLE

### HOW TO PLAY

- Each row (horizontal line) must have numbers 1-9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.
- Each column (vertical line) must have numbers 1-9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.
- Each 3x3 box must have numbers 1-9 in any order but each digit can only appear once.

There is only one correct answer!



(c) Daily Sudoku Ltd 2008. All rights reserved.

Daily SuDoku: Sat 6-Dec-2008

easy

## Horoscopes

### Aries

March 21 to April 20

In the morning, you will manage to obtain the money you need for starting a new business. Don't hesitate to join in a partnership with an experienced friend.

### Taurus

April 21 to May 20

You may be considering starting a business on your own. Be realistic and consider all the requirements of such a project. You should not feel so reluctant about visiting your relatives.

### Gemini

May 21 to June 21

Your schedule will be busy. You might have to run a number of errands. You are expected to leave on an important trip soon.

### Cancer

June 22 to July 22

Today may be an important day in your sentimental life. Either you will fall in love or the relationship with your loved one will enter a new stage.

### Leo

July 23 to Aug. 22

It's a good time to start a new business or consider long-term investments. This morning you will be in great shape and feel enthusiastic, much to the satisfaction of your loved one. Relationships with your friends will be excellent.

### Virgo

Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

You may run into an old friend who might ask you to join in a partnership. It seems to be worth trying, but you should remain cautious.

### Libra

Sept. 23 to Oct. 23

You will be in a good shape, and you are advised to take advantage of this favorable time. This is a good day for business and travelling. Your sentimental life is favored as well.

### Scorpio

Oct. 24 to Nov. 22

Intuition will help you seize an opportunity and initiate a new business which will finally result in an improved budget. You may want to consider your loved one's advice.

### Sagittarius

Nov. 23 to Dec. 21

You are determined to begin a new stage in your life. You have good chances to succeed in a business of your own. You are advised to pay more attention to your need for rest.

### Capricorn

Dec. 22 to Jan. 20

In the afternoon, you will receive a significant amount of money, probably an inheritance. Don't lose your head, and avoid any speculation.

### Aquarius

Jan. 21 to Feb. 19

This is a favorable time for you in all respects. You have good chances to solve important issues. You may decide to buy a new house or make a property exchange.

### Pisces

Feb. 20 to March 19

In the financial department, the sun will be shining again on your street. You may earn a significant sum of money if you join in a new business partnership.



# Football year in review

By Adam Clark  
Sports Editor

Picked to finish fourth in the Colonial Athletic Association North Division, the University of Maine football team appeared well on their way to a middle-of-the-pack finish after a 2-3 start.

The Black Bears reeled off six straight wins and finished second in the division, garnering their first playoff berth since 2002.

UMaine finished their season last Saturday, losing 40-15 at the University of Northern Iowa in the first round of the postseason.

Despite losing 14 seniors, the 2009 Black Bears will return many skill position players, especially on offense, as they look to build on this season's success and advance further into December.

## Key losses

Defensive End Jovan Belcher (98 tackles, 17.5 tackles for loss, 7.5 sacks) — Co-Captain and CAA defensive player of the year — Belcher was one of the top defensive players in the nation and could hear his name called in the upcoming NFL Draft.

Tailback Jhamal Fluellen (532 yards, 3 touchdowns) — Co-Captain and All-CAA third-team selection struggled with injuries, but was one of the top backs to ever set foot in Orono.

Center Ryan Canary — All-CAA first teamer was a three-year starter on an offensive line that ranked third in the conference.

Right tackle Chris Arnao — Key cog on the offensive line earned third-team all-conference honors.

Linebacker Andrew Downey (105 tackles) — Three-year starter garnered second-team CAA honors.

Safety Lamir Whetstone (6 INTs) — Ball-hawking defensive back led the team in interceptions and anchored the secondary.

Punter Kash Kiefer — Helped win the field position battle, averaging 41.5 yards per punt.

## Key returnees

Redshirt freshman fullback Jared Turcotte (625 yards, 7 TDs) — All-CAA first-team pick in his rookie season, Turcotte led the team in rushing.

Junior quarterback Michael Brusko (12 total TDs) — Run-first quarterback guided the Black Bears to six straight wins.

Sophomore quarterback Adam Farkes (9 passing TDs) — Had impressive stats through the air in limited time as the starter after going down with a season-ending injury on Oct. 11.

Junior wide receiver Landis Williams (22 rec., 308 yards, 5 TDs) — Big-play threat on the outside struggled through injuries, but still found the end-zone five times.



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

Andrew Downey takes down UNH's Robert Simpson on Nov. 23. Downey was a second-team All-CAA selection and helped lead the Black Bears to the playoffs for the first time since 2002.

Junior defensive end Jordan Stevens (53 tackles, 4 sacks) — Will try to fill the void left by the departing Jovan Belcher.

Junior linebacker Mark Masterson (68 tackles, 1 INT, 1 TD) — Only returning starter on the linebacking unit.

## MVPs

Offense — Michael Brusko and Jared Turcotte

Brusko played special teams and wide receiver and took snaps as the backup quarterback before stepping in for the injured Farkes and not missing a beat against nationally-ranked Delaware. He went on to lead the Black Bears to the playoffs for the first time in five years.

Turcotte emerged as a star in the depleted Black Bear backfield as a first-year player. He was one of only two rookies named to the All-CAA first team and had only one carry going into week five before he burst onto the scene.

Defense — Jovan Belcher

The heart-and-soul of the "Black Hole" defense, Belcher is a Buck Buchanan Award finalist, an honor given to the nation's top defensive player. He was constantly double-teamed and the focal point of everyone's offensive gameplan, but despite all the attention, his numbers did not drop off from a year ago.

## Low point

After the games against James Madison and New Hampshire

Tied 10-10 in the fourth quarter at home against No. 1 JMU, the Black Bears attempted an onside kick, but it failed, and they fell 24-10.

Ahead 24-21 midway through the fourth quarter, UMaine had a

chance to put away UNH for the CAA North title, but a touchdown was called back due to a holding penalty. The Wildcats drove down the field and scored with just over three minutes left to win 28-24.

## High point

Being selected to the NCAA Playoffs

Despite a season-ending loss to UNH, the long-shot Black Bears earned an at-large playoff berth. It was their first postseason appearance since 2002.

*The Black Bears will return to the playoffs behind one of the conference's top offenses and compete for the division title with UNH.*

## Breakout players for next season

Offense — Landis Williams

The veteran wide receiver has game-breaking speed, and if the Black Bears have a more balanced attack next season, he will be a recipient of many of the passes. He should also be a part of the return game.

Defense — Norman Smith

The redshirt freshman cornerback was not slated to start in 2008, but was forced into duty after injuries to teammates. He struggled early on in the season, but ended up with three interceptions on the year.

## Outlook on 2009

The Black Bears return a fair share of playmakers on offense. If Farkes returns healthy and grabs

the starting job again, the attack will be more balanced. The top two wideouts return and three backs are back, including Turcotte, who will be featured even more next season. With Farkes as quarterback, Brusko would be moved back to wide receiver, as well as taking snaps behind center on certain offensive plays. The only question mark is the offensive line, which broke in three starters this year and will have to fill two spots after losses to graduation.

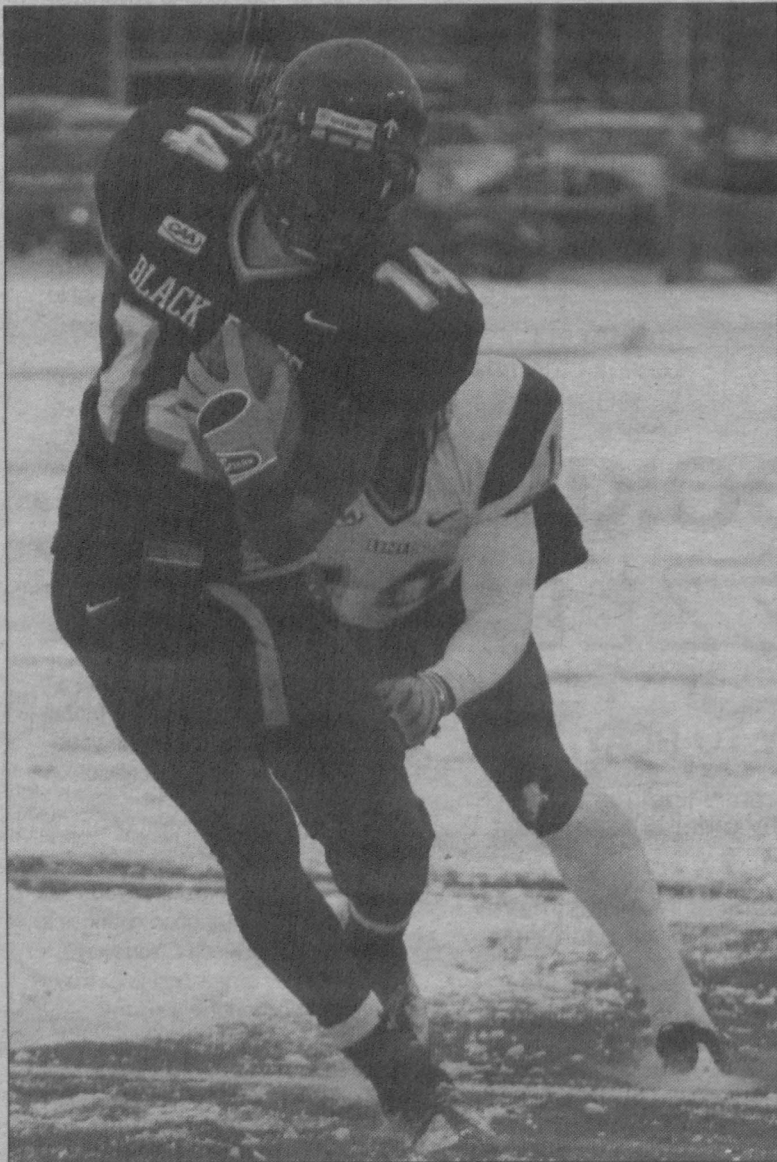
On defense, UMaine loses six starters, with two at each line of defense. The big loss will be Belcher, the do-it-all defensive end who cannot be replaced. Also gone are veteran players at linebacker and defensive back. Stevens, Masterson, Smith, Raibonne Charles and Brandon McLaughlin all return to anchor the defensive unit, but they must get immediate help from first-year starters to avoid a rough season.

On special teams, Kiefer must be replaced, but Jordan Waxman and Brian Harvey both return to perform placekicking duties.

## Predictions

The offense will be even more dynamic with the return of Farkes to balance out the attack. Turcotte will turn into a 1,000-yard rusher and star at the Football Championship Series (FCS) level behind a young, solid offensive line. The defense is the big question mark and they will take their lumps, but be adequate enough to compete. If Williams or another Black Bear can turn into a great returner, it would aid UMaine a lot as return men are game changers.

The Black Bears will return to the playoffs behind one of the conference's top offenses and compete for the division title with UNH. If the defense shores up quickly, they could contend for an outright CAA title and advance deep into the playoffs.



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

Derek Session tiptoes down the sideline after making a catch in the fourth quarter against UNH. The redshirt freshman helped pick up the slack when Jhamal Fluellen went down with injury.



**Duffy**

from page 18

"It feels good to represent your home state. It had always been my dream to play here. It's hard for a Maine player to play for Maine. A lot of the players don't have what it takes," he said.

Throughout his life, his parents, Michael and Cheryl, have been his biggest influence. He said that the kind of support they give him is key.

"Without them, I wouldn't be here. They always back me up through tough times," he said.

For Duffy, playing at UMaine has taught him a lot more than just hockey.

"It's not always about playing hockey. It's about being a role model for young kids. It's also about being a good person off the ice," Duffy said.

"Duffy has a really calming presence back on the blue line. He is always in control and is totally unflappable. That, combined with his ability to throw momentum-changing body checks, makes him one of the best defensemen in the league," captain Jeff Marshall said.

Duffy played as a forward half of last year, but proved to be a solid defenseman. Kerluke said they were not sure how Duffy would be coming into this season, but he worked on conditioning all summer and came back in the best shape he's been in.

"He has really improved. The conditioning has translated into his play on the ice. He has helped the team do something special this season, and he does really well keeping his teammates in line," Kerluke said.

Freshman forward Brian Flynn said Duffy is smart with the puck. He has good vision on the ice and maintains the ability to slow down the game.

Sophomore forward Tanner House is in his second year playing with Duffy. He said Duffy has a leadership that is easy to follow, and he never panics on the ice.

"As an underclassman, I want to learn as much as I can from guys like him and be able to follow what they do," House said.

UMaine has left Duffy with some great memories. Playing at Frozen Fours in his first two years is at the top of his list. Playing on home ice always gives great memories, and he said the support from the fans and tradition is great. A top career memory for him was being drafted in the fourth round, 104th overall, in 2005 by the Florida Panthers. He said his whole family came to watch. The first two rounds were chosen on TV, so they watched the rest on the computer. He was outside when they found out, and his mom came running out to tell him.

"It was the best feeling in the world," he said.

Duffy would love to continue with hockey for as long as he can, with interest in playing for Florida or for American Hockey League's Rochester Americans. But he says he always will have his degree to fall back onto if hockey doesn't work out. He said he would love to teach or coach hockey.

**Hockey**

from page 18

UMaine freshman defenseman Will O'Neill to give the Huskies a 2-0 lead. It was the first power play goal allowed by the Black Bears since Nov.

14 against Providence College.

UMaine freshman goalie Scott Darling was challenged 24 times in regulation and prevented Northeastern from increasing the lead while the Black Bears scored back-to-back goals before the second intermission. Freshman forward Brian Flynn scored his fourth goal of the season and second in consecutive games, and defenseman Matt Duffy lit the lamp for the first time in his senior campaign.

Flynn's even-strength goal at the 14:48 mark was assisted by sophomore forward Keif Orsini and freshman defenseman Ryan Hegarty, who picked up his first collegiate point.

Duffy's goal in the final minute of the period came after the Huskies committed a pair of penalties, including a five minute major, to give the Black Bears a 5-on-3 advantage. Freshmen Gustav Nyquist and Josh Van Dyk each picked up their sixth assist of the season, setting up Duffy, who snapped a streak of 22 scoreless power plays for the Black Bears.

The two top goaltenders in Hockey East preserved the tie through the third period before Liotti scored on the Huskies second attempt in overtime. UMaine did not

**Crossword Solution**

manage a shot on Thiessen in the extra frame. Darling, November's Hockey East Rookie of the Month, picked up his third loss and fell to 3-1.

The Black Bears return to Alford Arena this weekend to host Union College for a pair of games Friday and Saturday, both starting at 7 p.m.

# We are looking for writers!

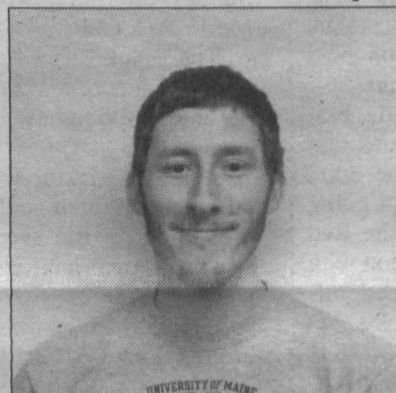
The Maine Campus is looking for committed writers to fill its pages with interesting, grammatically non-deficient articles. If you feel you can contribute to this wonderful paper, use FirstClass to contact:



Heather Steeves,  
News Editor



Mario Moretto,  
Opinion Editor



Zach Dionne, Style Editor

## THE BEST IN STUDENT LIVING

FITNESS CENTER	TANNING BED
LARGE SCREEN TV'S	GAME ROOM
BASKETBALL COURT	PRIVATE BEDROOMS
SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT	COMPUTER LAB

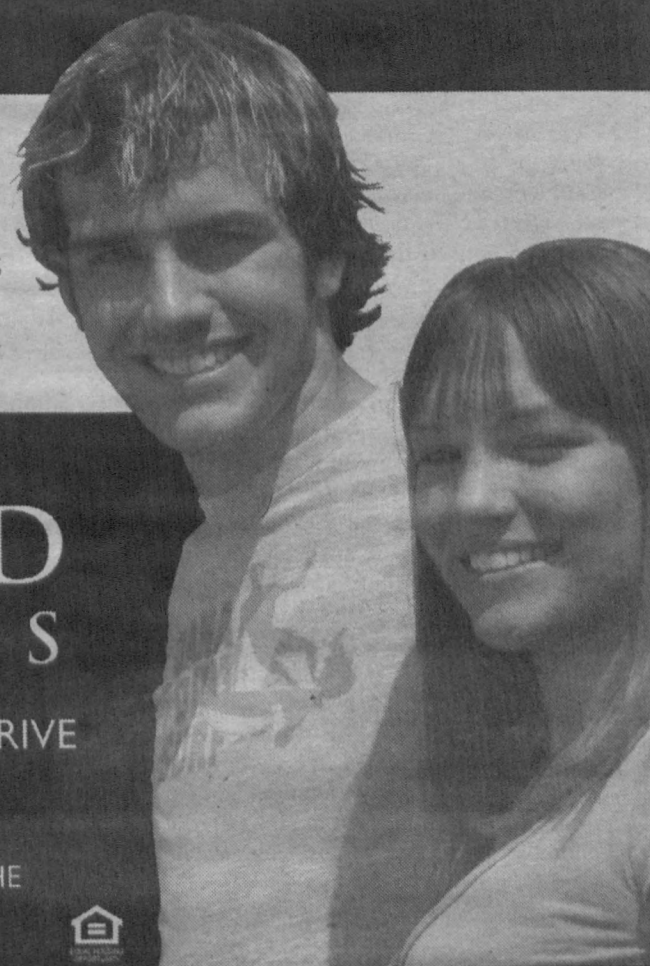
Amenities subject to change

## ORCHARD TRAILS

207.866.2200 | 4 EMPIRE DRIVE

Mestudenthousing.com

JUST ACROSS PARK STREET FROM THE  
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE





## Should Tek stay?

By Maeghan Connor  
For The Maine Campus

The Major League Baseball stove is starting to burn and the Boston Red Sox are right in the mix. With time running out before winter meetings, the Sox and General Manager Theo Epstein are ready to make some changes. Some of these changes aren't going to be popular, such as the case with Jason Varitek.

Varitek has been playing for the Sox for more than 10 years and has made a name for himself as one of the game's best catchers. His fan base has grown, and he was even named captain to recognize the leadership and veteran experience he has brought to his team. He was the catcher that brought Boston to two championships following an 86-year drought. That's what makes it hard to say goodbye.

At 36 years old, Varitek is a hard signing for Epstein to justify, and one that would not be made for the right reasons. As much as Varitek means to Red Sox Nation, Epstein has to focus on what is best for the team, and what will get the Sox more of those rings they have come to expect in recent years.

Ask me at the beginning of last season if I thought we should trade Tek and I would have laughed in your face, but after this career .263 hitter had a .220 year, you have to ask yourself, "How much longer until the nostalgia wears off? How much longer can you hold onto a player because you really like him?"

Don't get me wrong; Tek is one of the best catchers in the league at calling games and committed only four errors during the 2008 season. Yet, calling a good game is not going to win championships. In order for the Red Sox to compete, just within their division with the Yankees and the Rays, they need all-around players at every position. Tek's bat isn't cutting it.

Also, you can't put this all on the Red Sox. They are dealing with Scott Boras, Varitek's agent and the baseball world's equivalent of the devil, who will settle for nothing but a multi-year contract that you just can't offer a 36-year-old catcher. Rumors had been floating around that the Red Sox were considering offering him a one-year contract, until they recently offered him arbitration, which he had until Sunday night to accept or decline. Arbitration would keep him with the Red Sox for 2009, which Boras, it seems, will never accept.

In light of this, the Sox have begun looking elsewhere for a catcher, leading me to believe that when the 2009 Red Sox run onto the field in April, Varitek won't be there. Interest has been shown in Rangers' catchers Jarrod Saltalamacchia and Taylor Teagarden, who are 23 and 24 years old, respectively, and are both coming off of solid years despite limited playing time on a team with deep talent behind the plate. Either of the catchers would bring something new to the Red Sox that the fans, I'm sure, would enjoy, but that doesn't make it any easier.

When it comes to a guy like Varitek, you expect to see him there night after night behind the plate. He's the corner piece of the puzzle that seems to hold everything together. I'll never forget what I saw him do after the Red Sox won the World Series in 2004. When everyone retreated to the locker room for the traditional alcohol fight, at first Varitek simply sat off to the side quietly absorbing what had happened. It is a weird thing that stuck with me about an incredible night, but it did, because it is people like Tek that are the reason we watch. He is a hard-working, dedicated player who will sacrifice his well-being to win for his team and fans. But there comes a day when it's time to give someone else a chance to shine and a fresh face for the fans to root for. Eventually, there comes the day when you need to let go.

## Windham's Duffy thrives

By Candace Daley  
For The Maine Campus

Senior defenseman Matt Duffy began his hockey career when he was six years old, playing beginner hockey in Portland. His father, Michael, was the one who influenced him to pick up the game. In high school, Michael played hockey and football. Football caused him many injuries, and he didn't want his son getting hurt all the time, so he steered Duffy toward hockey. When he was eight, he played for a Casco Bay team in Yarmouth.

During his first year of high school, Duffy played for a Midget AAA team. He first saw playing at the University of Maine as a possibility at the age of 15, when he began receiving letters from the

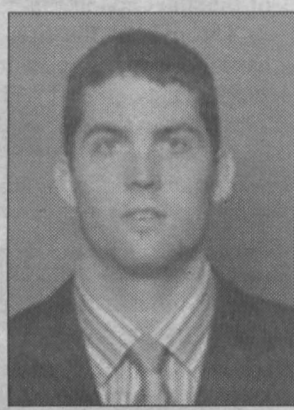
school. His sophomore year, he switched schools and played through his junior year of high school for Cheverus High, then transitioned to junior hockey his senior year, playing for the New Hampshire Junior Monarchs. Duffy committed to play at UMaine at the age of 17 after his second year playing juniors.

"It is important to have Maine kids on the team. The fans love seeing players representing the state. Fortunately, Duffy is a good Maine player," Associate Head Coach Dan Kerluke said.

Duffy was on the team during Kerluke's first year at Maine and said it has been nice to watch him grow.

Duffy had watched Maine players like Greg Moore and Derek Damon play over the years. He drew inspiration from

them, saying he had always wanted to play for his home state team. He said having been offered the opportunity to play at Maine was a great feeling, especially since UMaine was his first choice, and he didn't want to go to Boston College or Boston University.



Matt Duffy

See **DUFFY** on page 17

## UM shuts down Merrimack

By Stephen McCarthy  
Staff Reporter

After an unbeaten November, the University of Maine men's hockey team lost back-to-back games to begin the new month, but got back on track Sunday afternoon with a victory over Merrimack College.

The Black Bears finally ended up on the right side of a 3-2 decision after losing the previous two contests by the same score.

The game featured a rematch of the talented freshmen goaltenders who split the points in the second game of the season series just over a week ago. Darling made 27 saves to earn his sixth win and the eighth for UMaine, who improves to 8-5-1 (5-4-1 Hockey East). Joe Cannata stopped 20 of 23 shots for Merrimack, who drops to (4-8-3, 2-7-2 Hockey East). The Black Bears take the season series from the Warriors, earning a 2-0-1 record in the three early season games.

Two power play goals in the first three minutes of the opening period from freshman forward Gustav Nyquist and sophomore forward Tanner House gave the Black Bears an early 2-0 advantage.

Merrimack scored the lone goal of the second period, as junior forward Rob Ricci beat Darling with his team-leading fifth goal at the 11:59 mark to narrow the lead to 2-1.

Junior defenseman Brett Carriere scored his second goal of the season 13:39 into the third period to increase the UMaine lead back to two until the frantic waning minutes.

Already with a 4-on-3 power play, Merrimack pulled Cannata for a fifth skater, and sophomore defenseman Adam Ross took advantage, bringing the game back within a goal.

The Warriors blocked multiple attempts by the Black Bears to score with the empty net, but could not complete the comeback.

UMaine senior center Chris Hahn and freshman defenseman Will O'Neill each recorded assists on the first two goals, while sophomores Robby Dee and Mike Banwell set up Carriere on the third.

The Black Bears wrapped up the season series with Northeastern University on Friday night, falling 3-2 in overtime at Matthews Arena in Boston for their second straight loss. A two-goal effort by Northeastern defenseman Louis Liotti completed the three game sweep for the Huskies, who took both games in the opening weekend at Alford Arena.

It was the first time the Black Bears have been swept by Northeastern since 1984-85, the first year of existence for Hockey East. The conference-leading Huskies improve to 11-3-2 (8-2-1 Hockey East) with the win.

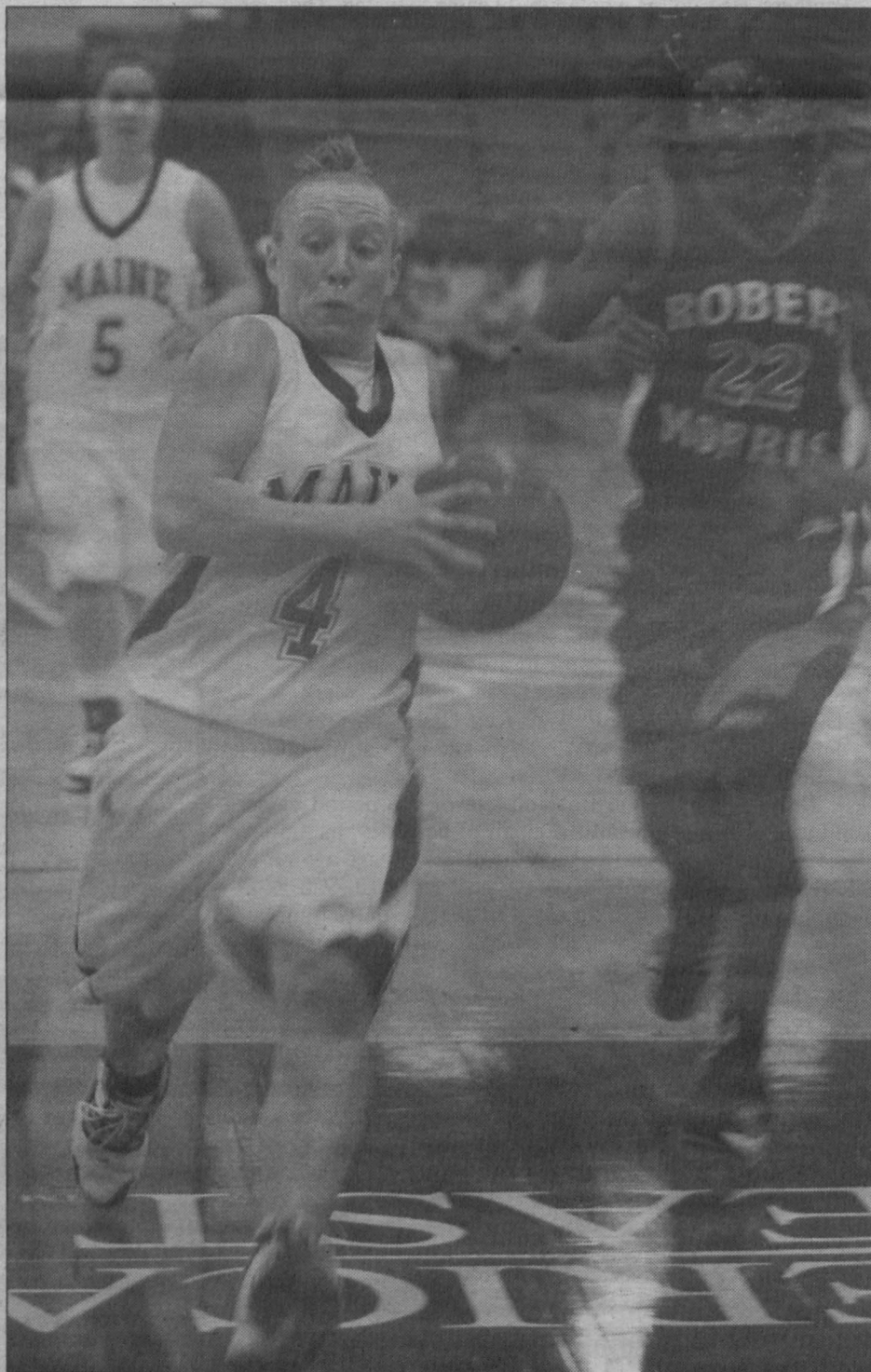
UMaine mounted a two goal comeback to send Friday's game into overtime before Liotti broke the tie 2:29 into the extra frame. Junior netminder Brad Thiessen stopped 31 of 33 shots for the

Huskies. The Hockey East Goaltender of the Month in November has started every game for Northeastern and allowed just three UMaine goals in the three games.

Liotti's first goal of the game and the season came midway through the second period, capitalizing on a five minute major penalty committed by

See **HOCKEY** on page 17

### Taking it to the tin



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

Kristin Baker makes her way through the paint in the 54-52 win over Robert Morris on Wednesday night.



# Manchester Monarchs vs. Portland Pirates

Dec. 9, 2008 - 7pm      Alfond Arena

Presented by



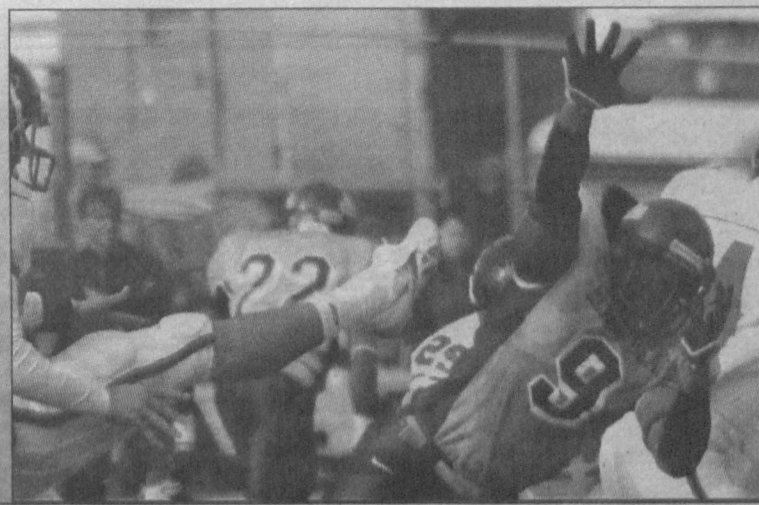
Teddy Purcell and Michel Leveille return to Orono!  
To purchase tickets call 581-BEAR

[www.maineecampus.com](http://www.maineecampus.com)



# THE MAINE CAMPUS sports

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2008



## Black Bears rout Owls

Nine hit double figures, Barnies grabs 20 boards

By Michael Pare  
For The Maine Campus

As the last fans headed for the exits at the Alford Arena after watching the University of Maine men's basketball team, "Taking Care of Business" played over the speakers.

It was a fitting conclusion to the game against the Division-III Owls of the University of Maine-Presque Isle where UMaine easily could have let up, but never did — rolling to a 126-50 victory.

Coming into the game, the Black Bears were mired in a four-game losing skid, having played only one of their seven games this season at home.

"This is only our third home game at Alford Arena since February," said UMaine coach Ted Woodward. "At home we need to focus, and we need to execute."

Execute they did.

Nine players scored in double figures for the Black Bears, who shot more than 50 percent from the field on the night, including an impressive four double-doubles.

### Men's Basketball

UM	126
UMPI	50

America East Player of the Game Troy Barnies led the attack. The 6-foot-7 sophomore forward scored 16 points and dominated the glass all night to finish with a career-high 20 rebounds.

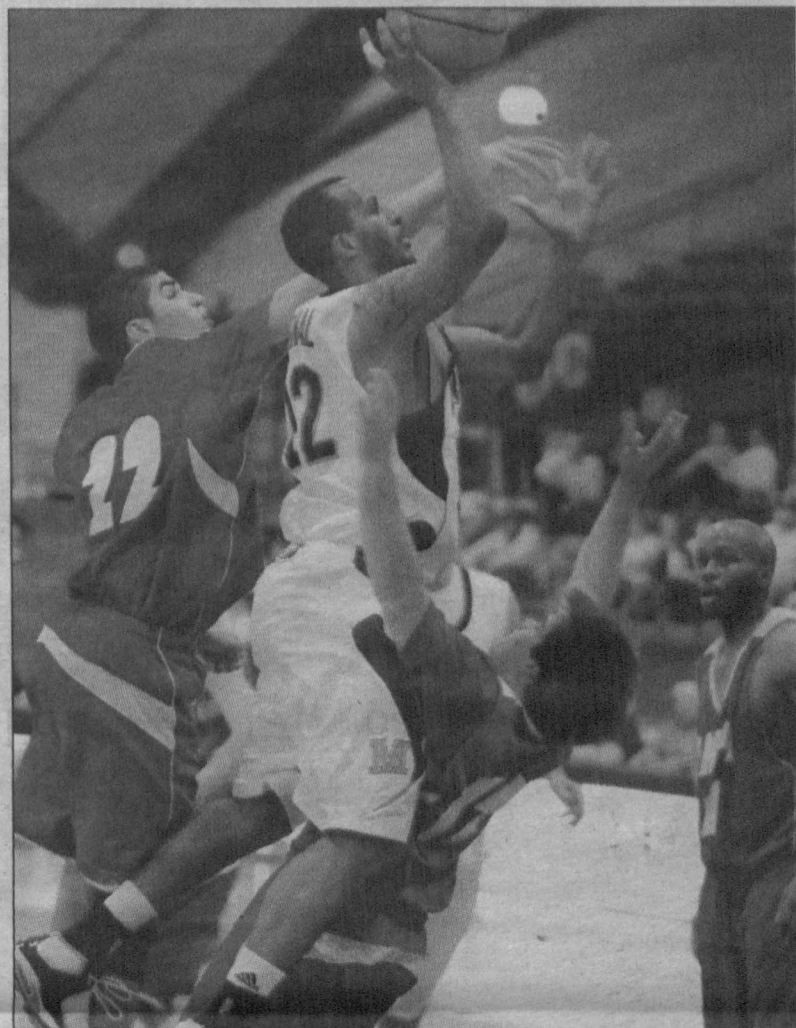
Equally impressive was the play of two of UMaine's smallest players. Freshman guard Ryan Martin, winner of the 2008 Maine Mr. Basketball award, stands at only 5-foot-9,

but was on fire from downtown all game. He connected on six of nine three-pointers to lead all scorers with 20 points. Meanwhile, another 5-foot-9 freshman, Andrew Rogers, was making the most of his first career start, dishing out 10 assists to go with seven points in 28 minutes of action.

After the game, Woodward was happy with how his young guys played and was optimistic about Martin's developing role in the offense.

"[Martin] is a guy we can definitely use in the future against some of the bigger opponents. His shooting can really spread the floor and open up a lot of opportunities."

UMaine will look to build off this win when they take on Colgate University tonight before going back on the road Wednesday for a daunting matchup with the sixth-ranked Sooners of the University of Oklahoma.



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

Junior Bernal goes up for a shot against UMPI. UMaine won 126-50.

Is it spring yet?



Amy Brooks ♦ The Maine Campus

The newly laid FieldTurf at UMaine's Mahaney Diamond.

## Lacasse, PC cools UM

Freshman goalie allows two goals over weekend

By Benjamin Violette  
For The Maine Campus

The University of Maine women's ice hockey team played host to the Providence College Friars this past weekend for a two-game series. The Black Bears dropped both games to the Friars by a score of 4-1.

With the loss, UMaine falls to 3-13-1 overall and 1-7-1 in Hockey East, while the Friars improve to 9-6-2 overall and 5-2-1 in Hockey East.

The recently hot Black Bear offense was ice cold and could not develop many chances.

UMaine coach Dan Lichterman said his team simply did not read the Friars well.

"We did not move our feet. We would make one play and did not think that we had to make a second or third."

UMaine sophomore Jennie Gallo noticed the team seemed tired. "We definitely did not bring our best game. Our legs just weren't there."

In Friday night's game, the Black Bears were able to strike first, just 7:18 into the game. UMaine's lone goal came as senior captain

Vanessa Vani won the faceoff in the Friars zone, launching the puck back to Gallo. Gallo carried the puck across ice to the left wing position and fired a quick pass to Vani on the right side. Vani stopped the puck and blasted a shot at the Friar's freshman goalie Genevieve Lacasse, who initially made the save with her pads, but the puck filtered through and into the goal.

### Women's Hockey

UM	1
Providence	4

UM	1
Providence	4

"Jennie and I have been working on that play for a while. We were just happy to finally see it work," Vani said.

Coach Lichterman complimented on Vani's play, stating that it was nice to see their "usual playmaker" become a goal scorer.

In Saturday afternoon's game, already down 2-0, UMaine junior Jenna

Ouellette took advantage of a loose puck off a slap shot from junior Lexie Hoffmeyer that Providence goalie Lacasse could not handle. Ouellette crammed the puck into the net for her team-leading seventh goal of the season.

"We're going to continue to take the season game by game and work to get better," Gallo said.

With the two losses during the weekend, the Black Bears dropped to eighth place in Hockey East, while the Friars moved up three spots from fifth to second.

Despite the two losses Vani saw a few improvements in the squad.

"I definitely saw glimpses of what we've been working on in practices. We just had a lack of communication. We need to talk more."

Vani remains just one assist shy of becoming the all-time assists leader in UMaine history.

The Black Bears return to the ice next weekend, taking part in two doubleheaders with the men's team as both squads take on Union College on Friday and Saturday. The women will hit the ice first on each day at 2 p.m.